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TO

Edward Popham,

OF

Littlecot in the County of *Wilts*, Esq;

THE Benefits accruing to literature from the patronage of great and judi-

Chilton, or heard with what care and expence they are preſerved, can be ignorant. And as this ſolicitude, for the mere amuſement of Anglers, a very ſmall and inconſiderable part of mankind, is a peculiar ſtrain of beneficence, ſo it affords a probable ground to hope, that a treatiſe on the art itſelf, written with ſo much judgment and ingenuity, and containing ſuch abundant

dant inſtruction and innocent entertainment as this does, can hardly fail of a favourable reception.

Next to the ſatisfaction of having reſtored to the world ſo valuable a work, and having performed for Mr. *Walton*, an office he had frequently ſo well diſcharged for others, and which, for the honour of his memory, I could wiſh had been undertaken by ſome abler hand,

I feel none greater, than the occaſion it now gives me of teſtifying my gratitude for the obligations I have received from you, and, of ſubſcribing myſelf,

Your moſt obedient Servant,

Twickenham,
10th *April*, 1760.

JOHN HAWKINS.

Adver-

Advertiſement.

THE COMPLETE ANGLER *having been written ſo long ago as* 1653, *although the laſt publication thereof in the lifetime of the authors, was in* 1676, *contains many particulars of perſons now but little known, and frequent alluſions to facts, and even modes of living, the memory whereof is in a great meaſure obliterated: a new edition therefore ſeemed to require a retroſpect to the time when the authors lived, an explanation of ſuch paſſages as an interval of more than an hundred years had neceſſarily rendered obſcure, together with ſuch improvements in the art itſelf as the accumulated experience of ſucceeding times has enabled us to furniſh.*

An

An edition, undertaken with this view, is now attempted, and in a way, it is to be hoped, that may once again introduce the authors to the acquaintance of perſons of learning and judgment.

All that the editor requeſts in return for the pains he has taken is, that the reader will do him the juſtice to believe that his only motives for the republication of this work, were a deſire to perpetuate the memory of a meek, benevolent, pious man, and to contribute ſomething to the improvement of an art of which he profeſſes himſelf a lover,

THE

LIFE

OF

Mr. *Izaak Walton.*

THE excellent Lord *Verulam* has noted it as one of the great deficiencies of Biographical Hiſtory, that it is, for the moſt part, confined to the actions of Kings, Princes, and great Perſonages, who are neceſſarily few; while the memory of leſs conſpicuous, though good men, has been no better preſerved than by vague reports and barren elogies*.

It is not therefore to be wondred at, if little care has been taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the perſon who is the ſubject of the preſent enquiry; and, indeed, there are many circumſtances that ſeem to account

* De *Augmentis Scientiarum.*

for

for ſuch an omiſſion; for neither was he diſtinguiſhed by his rank, or eminent for his learning, or remarkable for the performance of any public ſervice; but, as he ever affected a retired life, ſo was he noted only for an ingenious humble good man.

However, to ſo eminent a degree did he poſſeſs the qualities above aſcribed to him, as to afford a very juſtifiable reaſon for endeavouring to impreſs upon the minds of mankind, by a collection of many ſcattered paſſages concerning him, a due ſenſe of their value and importance.

Iſaac, or, as he uſed to write it, *Izaak Walton*, was born at *Stafford*, in the month of *Auguſt* 1593*. The *Oxford* Antiquary, who has thus fixed the place and year of his nativity, has left us no memorials of his family, nor even hinted where or how he was educated; but has only told us, that before the year 1643, *Walton* was ſettled, and followed the trade of a *Sempſter* in *London*†.

From his own writings then it muſt be, that the circumſtances attending his life muſt, in a great meaſure come; and, as oc-

* He has often been confounded with Dr. *Brian Walton*, the learned publiſher of the *Polyglot* Bible; who was a native of *Yorkſhire*, and born ſeven years after *Iſaac*.

† *Athen. Oxon.* Vol. I. Col. 305.

caſions

caſions offer, a proper uſe will be made of them; nevertheleſs a due regard will be paid to ſome traditional memoirs, which, beſides that they contain nothing improbable, the authority of thoſe to whom we ſtand indebted for them, will not allow us to queſtion.

His firſt ſettlement in *London*, as a Shopkeeper, was in the Royal Burſe in *Cornhill*, built by Sir *Thomas Greſham*, and finiſhed in 1616*; and as in the year 1624, as will hereafter appear, he was fixed in a different part of the city, we may reaſonably ſuppoſe he was one of the firſt inhabitants of the Burſe; and being then but 23, was perhaps one of thoſe induſtrious young men, whom, as we are told, the munificent founder himſelf placed in the ſhops erected over that edifice.

In this ſituation he could ſcarcely be ſaid to have elbow-room; for the ſhops over the Burſe were but ſeven feet long, and five wide†; yet here did he carry on his trade 'till ſome time before the year 1624; when‡ " he dwelt on the North ſide of *Fleet-Street*, " in a houſe two doors Weſt of the end of " *Chancery-Lane*, and abutting on a meſſu- " age known by the ſign of the *Harrow*;"

* *Ward*'s life of Sir *Thomas Greſham*. 12.
† *Ibid.*
‡ *Ex. vet Autograph. penes me.*

now

now the old Timber Houſe at the South-Weſt corner of *Chancery-Lane*, in *Fleet-Street*, till within theſe few years, was known by that ſign: 'tis therefore beyond doubt that *Walton* lived at the very next door, and in this houſe, he is, in the deed above referred to, which bears date 1624, ſaid to have followed the trade of a *Linnen-Draper*. It further appears by that deed, that the houſe was in the joint occupation of *Iſaac Walton*, and *John Maſon*, Hoſier, from whence we may conclude, that half a ſhop was ſufficient for the buſineſs of *Walton*.

A citizen of this age would almoſt as much diſdain to admit of a tenant for half his ſhop, as a Knight would to ride double; though the brethren of one of the moſt ancient orders in the world were ſo little above this practice, that their common ſeal was the device of two riding on one horſe *. A more than gradual deviation from that parſimonious character, of which this is a ludicrous inſtance, haſtened the grandeur and declenſion of that ſet of men; and it is to be hoped the vaſt increaſe of the trade of this country, and an almoſt inevitable averſion from the

* The Knights Templars. *Aſhmole*'s Inſtitut. of the order of the garter, p. 55. See a repreſentation of the ſeal at the end of *Matt. Paris*, Hiſt. Anglicana, edit. 1640.

frugal

frugal manners of our forefathers, may not be productive of ſimilar conſequences.

It would, perhaps, be injuſtice to infer from the particular abovementioned, that the trade of *Walton* was ſmall, or his circumſtances narrow; the reader is enabled to account for this example of his œconomy; beſides, that the extenſiveneſs of his acquaintance, and the fortune he left, forbid ſuch a ſuppoſition.

Ten years after, we find him living in *Chancery-Lane*; there he carried on the buſineſs of a *Sempſter* * or *Miliner*; a particular from which we may infer, that he was, by this time, if not long before, married; beſides that, he was now turned of forty. This houſe belonged to the owner of the former; and it is ſuppoſed was but a few doors up the Lane on the left hand.

About 1643 he left *London*, and with a fortune very far ſhort of what would now be called a competency †, ſeems to have retired altogether from buſineſs; at which time (to uſe the words of *Wood*) " finding it dange-
" rous for honeſt men to be there, he left
" that city, and lived ſometimes at *Stafford*,
" and elſewhere; but moſtly in the families
" of the eminent clergymen of *England*, of
" whom he was much beloved ‡.'

* *Ex. vet Autograph. penes me.*

† See his will at the end of the life.

‡ *Athen. Oxon.* Vol. I. Col. 305.

of

" pen, in the hiſtory of his life; indeed, ſo
" well, that beſide others, the beſt critick
" of our later time, Mr. *John Hales* of
" *Eaton*, affirmed to me, he had not ſeen a
" life written with more advantage to the
" ſubject, or reputation to the writer, than
" that of doctor *Donne* *."

Sir *Henry Wotton* dying in 1639, *Walton* was importuned by Biſhop *King*, to undertake the writing his life; and, as it ſhould ſeem, by a circumſtance mentioned in the margin, it was finiſhed about 1644 †. Notwithſtanding which, the earlieſt copy I have yet been able to meet with, is that prefixed to a collection of Sir *Henry*'s remains, undoubtedly made by *Walton* himſelf, entituled *Reliquiæ Wottonianæ*, and by him, in 1651, dedicated to Lady *Mary Wotton*, and her three daughters; though in a ſubſequent edition in 1685, he has recommended them to the patronage of a more remote relation of the author, namely, *Philip* Earl of *Cheſterfield*.

* Biſhop *King*'s letter to *Walton* before the collection of the Lives, in 1675.

† It is certain that *Hooker*'s life was written in 1664. And *Walton* ſays, in his epiſtle before the edition of the Lives, in 1675, that " there was an interval of twen-
" ty years between the writing of *Hooker*'s life and
" *Wotton*'s; which fixes the date of the latter to
" 1644."

The

The precepts of Angling, till *Walton's* time, having hardly ever been reduced to writing, were propagated from age to age chiefly by tradition; but *Walton*, whoſe benevolent and communicative temper appears in every line of his writings, unwilling to conceal from the world thoſe aſſiſtances which his long practice and experience enabled him, perhaps the beſt of any man of his time to give, in the year 1653, publiſhed, in a very elegant manner, his *Complete Angler, or Contemplative Man's Recreation*, in ſmall *Duodecimo*, adorned with exquiſite cuts of moſt of the fiſh mentioned in it. The artiſt who engraved them, has been ſo modeſt as to conceal his name; but there is great reaſon to ſuppoſe they are the work of *Lombart*, who is mentioned in the *Sculptura* of Mr. *Evelyn*.

And let no man imagine that a work on ſuch a ſubject muſt neceſſarily be unentertaining, or trifling, or even uninſtructive; for the contrary will moſt evidently appear from a peruſal of this excellent piece, which, whether we conſider the elegant ſimplicity of the ſtyle, the eaſe and unaffected humour of the dialogue, the lovely ſcenes which it delineates, the enchanting paſtoral poetry which it contains, or the fine morality it ſo ſweetly inculcates, has hardly its fellow in any of the modern languages.

The truth is, that there are few ſubjects ſo barren as not to afford matter of delight, and even of inſtruction, if ingeniouſly treated: *Montaigne* has written an eſſay on *Coaches* and another on *Thumbs*; and our own nation has produced many men who, from a peculiar felicity in their turn of thinking, and manner of writing, have adorned, and even dignified, themes the moſt dry and unpromiſing. Many would think that time ill employed, which was ſpent in compoſing a treatiſe on the art of *ſhooting in the long bow*; and how few lovers of horticulture would expect entertainment from a *diſcourſe of Sallads?* and yet the *Toxophilus* of *Roger Aſcham*, and the *Acetaria* of Mr. *Evelyn*, have been admired and commended by the beſt judges of literature*.

But that the reader may judge for himſelf how much our author has contributed to the improvement of piſcatory ſcience, and how far his work may be ſaid to be an original, it will be neceſſary for him to take a view of the ſtate of Angling at the time when he wrote; and that he may be the better able to do this, he will conſider; that, 'till the time of the reformation, although the clergy, as well regular as ſecular, on ac-

* *Biograph. Britan.* ASCHAM, 214. Note B. EVELYN, 1865.

count

count of their leiſure, and becauſe the canon law forbad them the uſe of the ſanguinary recreations of *Hunting*, *Hawking*, and *Fowling*, were the great proficients in Angling, yet none of its precepts were committed to writing; and that, from the time of the introduction of printing into this kingdom, to that of the firſt publication of *Walton*'s book, in 1653, an interval of more than one hundred and fifty years, only four books on this ſubject had been given to the world: of the three laſt ſome mention is made in the margin *; but the firſt of that number, as well on account of its quaintneſs as antiquity, and becauſe it is not a little characteriſtic of the age when it was written, deſerves to be particularly diſtinguiſhed. This tract, entituled, The treatyſe of fyſſhynge wyth

* *A book of Fiſhing with hook and line, and all other inſtruments thereunto belonging*; printed in the year 1590, and afterwards in 1596, and 1606.

Approved experiments touching Fiſh and Fruit, to be regarded by the lovers of Angling, by Mr. *John Taverner*, in *Quarto*, 1600.

The ſecrets of Angling, a poem, in three books, by *J. D.* Eſq; *Octavo*, 1613. Mention is made of this book, Page 150 of the enſuing dialogues. There is great room to imagine that it is the foundation of a treatiſe entituled, *The whole Art of Angling*; publiſhed in *Quarto* 1656, by the well-known *Gervaſe Markham*, as part of his *Country Contentments, or Huſbandman's Recreations*; ſince he confeſſes, that the ſubſtance of his book was originally in rhyme. Of *Markham*'s book a ſpecimen is given in a note on Page 22.

an Angle, makes part of a book, known, to the curious in typographical antiquities, by the title of, *the book of* St. Alban's. *Enprynted at Weſtmeſtre by Wynkyn de Worde*, 1496, in a ſmall *Folio*; the book conſiſts of a treatiſe on Hawking, another on Hunting, which is all in verſe; a book wherein is determined the Lygnage of Cote armures, the abovementioned treatiſe of Fiſhing, and the method of Blaſynge of armes.

This book was written by Dame *Julyans Bernes*, prioreſs of the nunnery of *Sopwell*, near St. *Alban's*; a lady of a noble family, and celebrated for her learning and accompliſhments, by *Leland*, *Bale*, *Pits* and others; and the reaſon for her publiſhing it, in the manner it appears in, ſhe gives us in the following words: And for by cauſe that this preſent treatyſe ſholde not come to the honoys of eche yole perſone whyche wolde deſire it, yf it were enpryntyd allone by itſelf, and put in a lytyll plaunflet; therefore I have compylyd it in a greter volume, of diverſe bokys, concernynge to gentyll and noble men, to the entent that the forſayd yole perſones whyche ſholde have but lytyll meſure in the ſayd dyſporte of fyſhynge, ſholde not by this meane utterly dyſtroye it.

And

And as to the treatiſe itſelf, it begins with a compariſon of Fiſhing, with the diverſions of *Hunting*, *Hawking*, and *Fowling*; which the authoreſs ſhews are attended with great inconveniencies, and diſappointments: whereas in Fiſhing, if his ſport fail him, the Angler, ſays ſhe, atte the leeſt hath his holſom walke, and mery at his eaſe, a ſwete ayre of the ſwete ſavoure of the meede floures, that makyth hym hungry; he hereth the melodyous armony of fowles; he ſeeth the yonge ſwannes, heerons, duckes, cotes, and many other foules, wyth theyr brodes; whyche me ſemyth better than alle the noyſe of houndys, the blaſtes of hornys, and the ſcrye of foulis, that hunters, falwkeners and foulers can make. And if the Angler take fyſshe, ſurely then is there no man merier than he is in his ſpyryte.

At the beginning of the directions, how the Angler is to make his *harnays*, or tackle, he is thus inſtructed to provide a rod: And how ye ſhall make your rodde craftly, here I ſhall teach you. Ye ſhall kytte betwene Mygheimas and Candylmas, a fayr ſtaffe, of a fadom and an halfe longe, and arme grete of haſyll, willowe, or aſpe; and bethe hym in an hote ovyn, and ſette hym evyn; thenne lete hym cole and drye a moneth. Take thenne and frette hym faſte

faſte wyth a cockeſhotecorde, and bynde hym to a fourme, or an evyn ſquare grete tree. Take thenne a plummer's wire, that is even and ſtreyte, and ſharpe at the one ende; and hete the ſharpe ende in a charcole fire tyll it be whyte, and brenne the ſtaffe therwyth thorough, ever ſtreyte in the pythe at bothe endes tyll they mete: and after that brenne hym in the nether end wyth a byrde bzache, and wyth other bzoches, eche gretter than other, and ever the grettest the laſte; ſo that ye make your hole aye tapze were: thenne lete hym lye ſtyll, and kele two days, unfette hym thenne, and lete hym drye in an houſe roof, in the ſmoke tyll he be thrugh drye: in the ſame ſeaſon take a fayr yerde of grene haſyll, and beth him evyn and ſtreyghte, and lete it drye with the ſtaffe; and whan they ben drye, make the yerde mete unto the hole in the ſtaffe unto halfe the length of the ſtaffe; and to perfourme that other halfe of the croppe, take a fayr ſhote of blacke thozn, crabbe tree, medeler, or of jenypze, kytte in the ſame ſeaſon, and well bethyd and ſtreyghte, and frette them togyder fetely, ſo that the croppe may juſtly entre all into the ſayd hole; thenne ſhave your ſtaffe, and make hym tapze were; then wyrell the

ſtaffe

ſtaffe at bothe endes with long hopis of yren, or laton, in the clenneſt wiſe, wyth a pyke in the nether ende, faſtnyd with a rennynge vyce, to take in and out your croppe; thenne ſet your croppe an handfull within the over ende of your ſtaffe, in ſuche wiſe that it be as bigge there as in ony other place above: thenne arme your croppe at thouer ende, downe to the frette, with a line of vj heeres, and dubble the lyne, and frette it faſte in the toppe wyth a bowe to faſten on your lyne; and thus ſhall ye make you a rodde ſo prevy, that ye may walk therwyth; and there ſhall no man wyte where abowte ye go.

Speaking of the *Barbel* ſhe ſays: The barbyll is a ſwete fyſſhe; but it is a quaſy meete, and a peryllous for mannys body. For comynly he yeuyth an introduction to the febyes: and yf he be eten rawe, he may be cauſe of mannys dethe, which hath oft be ſeen.

For taking the *Pike*, this Lady directs her readers in the following terms, *viz.*

Take a codlynge hoke, and take a roche or a freſſhe heering, and a wyre wyth an hole in the ende, and put it in at the mouth, and out at the tayll, downe by the ridge of the freſſhe heerynge; and thenne put the lyne of your hoke in after, and drawe the hoke into the

the cheke of the fresshe heeryng; thenn put a plumbe of lede upon your lyne a yerde longe from your hoke, and a flote in myd waye betwene, and caste it in a pytte where the Pyke usyth: and this is the beste and moost surest crafte of takynge the Pyke. Another manere takynge of hym there is: take a frosshe *, and put it on your hoke, at the necke, bytwene the skynne and the body, on the backe half, and put on a flote a yerde therfro, and caste it where the Pyke hauntyth and ye shall have hym. Another mannere: Take the same bayte, and put it in Asafetida, and cast it in the water wyth a corde and corke, and ye shall not fayl of hym. And yf ye lyst to have a good sporte, thenne tye the corde to a Gose fote, and ye shall se god halynge, whether the Gose or the Pyke shall have the better.

The directions for making flies, contained in this book, are as one would expect, very inartificial: we shall therefore only add, that the authoress advises the Angler to be provided with twelve different sorts, between which and *Walton*'s † twelve, the difference is so very small as well in the order as the

* Or Frog. *Minsh.*

† Vid. *Compl. Angl.* Page 106.

manner

manner of deſcribing them, that there cannot remain the leaſt doubt but he had ſeen, and attentively peruſed, this antient treatiſe.

The book concludes with ſome general cautions, among which are theſe that follow; which at leaſt ſerve to ſhew how long Angling has been looked on as an auxiliary to contemplation.

Alſo, ye ſhall not uſe this foreſayd crafty dyſporte, for no covetyſenes, to the encreaſynge and ſparynge of your money oonly, but pryncypally for your ſolace, and to cauſe the helthe of your body, and ſpecyally of your ſoule: for whanne ye purpoos to goo on your dyſportes in fyſſhyng, ye woll not deſyre gretly many perſones wyth you, whiche myghte lette you of your game. And thenne ye may ſerve God devowtly in ſayenge affectuouſly youre cuſtumable prayer; and thus doynge ye ſhall eſchewe and voide many vices.

But to return to the laſtmentioned work of our author, *The Complete Angler*; it came into the world attended with laudatory verſes by ſeveral writers of that day, and had in the title-page, though *Walton* thought proper to omit it in the future editions, this appoſite Motto.

" Simon

" SIMON PETER ſaid, I go a fiſhing; and " they ſaid, we alſo will go with " thee." *John.* xxi. 3.

What reception in general the book met with, may be naturally inferred from the dates of the ſubſequent editions thereof: the ſecond I have never been able to ſee, but the third came abroad about 1660; and a fourth in 1668. It is pleaſing to trace the ſeveral variations which the author, from time to time, made in thoſe ſubſequent editions, as well by adding new facts and diſcoveries, as enlarging on the more entertaining parts of the dialogue: and ſo far did he indulge himſelf in this method of improvement, that the third and fourth editions of his book have ſeveral entire new chapters; and the fifth, the laſt of the editions publiſhed in his lifetime, contains no leſs than eight Chapters more than the firſt, and twenty Pages more than the fourth.

Nor did the reputation of the *Compleat Angler* ſubſiſt only in the opinions of thoſe for whoſe uſe it was more peculiarly calculated, but even the learned, either from the known character of the author, or thoſe internal evidences of judgment and veracity contained in it, conſidered it as a work of merit, and for various purpoſes referred to its authority: doctor *Thomas Fuller*, in his *Worthies*, whenever he has

has occaſion to ſpeak of fiſh, uſes his very words*. doctor *Plot* in his hiſtory of *Staffordſhire*, has, on the authority of our author, related two of the inſtances of the voracity of the Pike, mentioned Part I. Chapt. VIII. and confirmed them by two other ſignal ones, that had then lately fallen out in that county †. And laſtly, doctor *Skinner*, in his *Etymologicon Linguæ Anglicanæ. Lond.* Fo. 1671, Voce *Fulimart*, gives us to underſtand, that it is, *Vox quæ muſquam, niſi in Libro* the Compleat Angler *dicto, occurrit.*

To purſue the ſubject of his *Biographical* writings, about two years after the reſtoration *Walton* wrote the life of Mr. *Richard Hooker*, author of the *Eccleſiaſtical Polity*; he was enjoyned to undertake this work by his friend Doctor *Gilbert Sheldon* ‡, afterwards Archbiſhop of *Canterbury*; who, by the way, was an Angler §. Biſhop *King*, in a letter to

* Worthies of *England* in *Berkſhire*, 81. *Dorſetſhire*, 277. *Kent.* 57.

† Hiſt. of *Staffordſhire*, Chap. VII. § 37. See alſo in the following Section, a well-atteſted account of the taking a brace of Carp; the one a Melter thirty-three inches long, and nineteen and a half about, weighing fifteen pounds; the other a Spawner, about two foot ſix inches long, and twenty and a half round, weighing fourteen pound; the ſcales of each being near as broad as a half-crown piece.

‡ *Walton*'s Epiſt. to the reader of the Lives, in *8vo.* 1675.

§ *Compl. Ang.* Edit. 1676. Page 211.

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the author * says of this life; "I have often "seen Mr. *Hooker* with my father, who was "after Bishop of *London*, from whom, and "others at that time, I have heard most of "the material passages which you relate in "the history of his life." Sir *William Dugdale*, speaking of the three posthumous books of the *Ecclesiastical Polity*, refers the reader "to that seasonable historical discourse lately "compiled and published, with great judg-"ment and integrity, by that much-deser-"ving Person, Mr *Isaac Walton* †." In this life we are told, that *Hooker* while he was at college made a visit to the famous doctor *Jewel*, then bishop of *Salisbury*, his good friend and patron: an account of the Bishop's behaviour, at his departure, as it contains a lively picture of his simplicity and goodness, and of the plain manners of those times, is given in the note ‖.

The

* Before the Lives.

† *Short view of the late troubles in* England, *Fo.* 1681. Page 39.

‖ "As soon as he was perfectly recovered from this "sickness, he took a journey from *Oxford* to *Exeter*, to "satisfie and see his good mother; being accompanyed "with a countreyman and companion of his own col-"ledge, and both on foot; which was then either more "in fashion, or want of money, or their humility made "it so: but on foot they went, and took *Salisbury* in their "way, purposely to see the good Bishop, who made Mr. "*Hooker* and his companion dine with him at his own "table; which Mr. *Hooker* boasted of with much joy

"and

The life of Mr. *George Herbert*, as it ſtands the fourth and laſt in the volume wherein that and the three former are collected, ſeems to have been written the next after *Hooker*'s: it was firſt publiſhed in *Duodecimo*, 1670. *Walton* profeſſes himſelf a ſtranger as to the perſon of *Herbert* *; and though he aſſures us his life of him was a free-will-offering †, it is no way inferior to any of the former.

" and gratitude, when he ſaw his mother and friends. " And, at the Biſhop's parting with him, the Biſhop gave " him good counſel, and his benediction, but forgot to " give him money; which, when the Biſhop had con- " ſidered, he ſent a ſervant, in all haſte, to call *Ri-* " *chard* back to him; and at *Richard*'s return, the Bi- " ſhop ſaid to him, *Richard*, I ſent for you back to " lend you a horſe, which hath carried me many a mile, " and, I thank God, with much eaſe; and preſently " delivered into his hand a walking-ſtaff, with which " he profeſſed he had travelled through many parts of " *Germany*; and he ſaid, RICHARD, *I do not give, but* " *lend you my horſe: be ſure you be honeſt, and bring my* " *horſe back to me at your return this way to* OXFORD. " *And I do now give you* ten groats, *to bear your* " *charges to* Exeter; *and here is* ten groats *more,* " *which I charge you to deliver to your mother; and tell* " *her, I ſend her a Biſhop's benediction with it, and beg* " *the continuance of her prayers for me. And if you* " *bring my horſe back to me, I will give you* ten " groats *more to carry you on foot to the colledge; and* " *ſo God bleſs you, good* RICHARD.". *Walton*'s Lives, Page 163.

* Introd. to *Herbert*'s Life.

† Epiſtle to the reader of the Lives. Edit. 1675.

Two

Two of these lives, *viz.* those of *Hooker* and *Herbert*, we are told, were written under the roof of *Walton*'s good friend and patron, Dr. *George Morley*, Bishop of *Winchester* *; which particular seems to agree with *Wood*'s account, that, "after his quitting *London*, he "lived mostly in the families of the emi-"nent clergy of that time;" and who that considers the inoffensiveness of his manners, and the pains he took in celebrating the lives and actions of good men, can doubt his being *much beloved* by them?

In the year 1675 these lives were collected and published in small *Octavo*, with a dedication to the Bishop of *Winchester*, and a preface, containing the motives for writing them, this preface is followed by a copy of verses, by his intimate friend and adopted son †, *Charles Cotton*, of *Beresford* in *Staffordshire*, Esq; of whom further mention will hereafter be made, and the letter from Bishop *King*, so often referred to in the course of this life.

The *Complete Angler* having, in the space of twenty three years, gone through four editions, *Walton* in the year 1676, and in the eighty third of his age, was preparing a fifth, with additions for the press; when Mr. *Cot-*

* Dedication of the Lives. Edit. 1675.
† *Compl. Ang.* Part II.

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ton wrote a ſecond part of that work. It ſeems Mr. *Cotton* ſubmitted the manuſcript to *Walton*'s peruſal, who returned it with his approbation *, and a few marginal ſtrictures; and in that year they came abroad together. Mr. *Cotton*'s book had the title of *The Complete Angler; being Inſtructions how to angle for a* Trout *or* Grayling, *in a clear ſtream.* Part II. and it has ever ſince been received as a ſecond part of *Walton*'s book. In the title Page is a cypher, compoſed of the initial letters of both their names; which cypher, Mr. *Cotton* tells us, he had cauſed to be cut in ſtone, and ſet up over a fiſhing-houſe †, that he had erected near his dwelling on the bank of the little river *Dove*, which divides the counties of *Stafford* and *Derby*.

Mr. *Cotton*'s book is a judicious ſupplement to *Walton*'s; for it muſt not be concealed, that *Walton*, though he was ſo expert an Angler, knew but little of fly-fiſhing; and indeed he is ſo ingenuous as to confeſs, that the greater part of what he has ſaid on that ſubject, was communicated to him by Mr. *Thomas Barker* ‡, and not the reſult of his own experience. This Mr. *Barker* was a good-humoured goſſiping old man, and ſeems to have been a cook; for he ſays, " he

* See *Walton*'s letter to *Cotton*, before the 2d Part.
† *Compl. Ang.* Part II. Page 9.
‡ *Compl. Ang.* 112.

" had been admitted into the moſt ambaſſa-
" dors kitchens that had come to *England*
" for forty years, and dreſt fiſh for them;" for which, he ſays, " he was duly paid by the " Lord Protector *.' he ſpent a great deal of time, and, it ſeems, money too, in fiſhing; and, in the latter part of his life, dwelt in an almſhouſe near the *Gatehouſe*, at *Weſtminſter*. A few years after the firſt publication of *Walton*'s book, viz. in 1659, he publiſhed a book intitled, *Barker*'s *Delight*; *or the Art of Angling*. And, for that ſingular vein of humour, that runs through it, a moſt diverting book it is. The dedication of this performance to *Edward* Lord *Montague*, General of the navy, is given, in the margin †; and the reader will meet with ſome fur-

* *Barker*'s *Delight*, Page 20.

† " NOBLE LORD,
" I do preſent this my book as I have named it, *Bar-*
" *ker*'s *Delight*, to your honour. *I pray God ſend you*
" *ſafe home to your good lady and ſweet babes. Amen, Amen.*
" If you ſhall find any thing delightful in the reading
" of it, I ſhall heartily rejoyce, for I know you are
" one who takes delight in that pleaſure, and have good
" judgment and experience, as many noble perſons and
" gentlem. of true piety and honour do and have.
" The favour that I have found from you, and a great
" many more that did and do love that pleaſure, ſhall
" never be bury'd in oblivion by me. I am now grown
" old, and am willing to inlarge my little book. I
" have written no more but my own experience and
" practice; and have ſet forth the true ground of Ang-
" ling,

further ſpecimens of the author's ſtyle and manner of writing in the notes on the preſent edition.

But *Cotton* lived in a country where fly-fiſhing was and is almoſt the only practice;

" ling, which I have been gathering theſe threeſcore
" years; having ſpent many pounds in the gaining of
" it, as is well known in the place where I was born
" and educated, which is *Bracemeale*, in the liberty of
" *Salop*; being a freeman and burgeſſe of the ſame city.
" *If any noble or gentle Angler, of what degree ſoever he be,*
" *have a mind to diſcourſe of any of theſe ways and expe-*
" *riments*, I live in *Henry* the VIIth's Gifts, the next
" doore to the *Gatehouſe*, in *Weſtminſter*; my name is *Bar-*
" *ker*; where I ſhall be ready, as long as pleaſe God, to
" ſatisfie them, and *maintain my art* during life, which
" is not like to be long; that the younger fry may have
" my experiments, at a ſmaller charge than I had them;
" for, it would be too heavy for every one that loveth
" that exerciſe, to be at the charge as I was at firſt in
" my youth, the loſſe of my time, with great expences.
" Therefore I took it in conſideration, and thought fit
" to let it be underſtood, and to take pains to ſet forth
" the true grounds and ways that I have found, by ex-
" perience, both for fitting of the *Rods* and *Tackles*,
" both for *Ground-baits* and *Flyes*; with directions for
" the making thereof; with obſervations for times and
" ſeaſons, for the *Ground-baits* and *Flyes*, both for day
" and night, with the dreſſing; wherein I take as much
" delight as in the taking of them; and to ſhew how I
" can perform it, to furniſh any Lord's table onely
" with Trouts, as it is furniſhed with Fleſh, for 16 or
" 20 diſhes. And I have a deſire to *preſerve their*
" *health* (with help of God) *to go dry in their boots and*
" *ſhooes in Angling* * ; for age taketh the pleaſure from
" me."

* See his *Recipe* for this purpoſe in the Notes on Chap XVII.

and indeed he ſeems to have known more of it than moſt men of his time. Not to anticipate what will be found in the book, it may be neceſſary to ſay that there is great ſpirit in the dialogue; and that the ſame converſable, communicative temper appears in it, that ſo eminently diſtinguiſhes the piece it accompanies.

The deſcriptions of flies, with the materials for, and different methods of making them, though they may admit of ſome improvement, and accordingly the reader will meet with ſeveral valuable ones in the notes on the chapter of artificial flies, are indiſputably the moſt exact and copious of all that have ever yet been publiſhed.

At the end of the ſecond part, though in this edition, it has been thought proper to tranſpoſe them, are ſome verſes of *Cotton*'s writing, which he calls *The Retirement* or *Stanzes Irreguliers:* of them, and alſo of the book, take this character from *Langbaine:* " This book is not unworthy the peruſal of the graveſt men that are lovers of this innocent recreation; and thoſe who are not Anglers, but have a taſte for poetry, may find Mr. *Cotton*'s character better deſcribed by himſelf, in a copy of verſes, printed at the end of that book, called the *Retirement*, than any I might preſent the reader from Col. *Lovelace*, Sir *Aſton Cockaine*, *Robert Herrick*, Eſq; or

" Mr.

" Mr. *Alexander Brome*; all which have " writ verſes in our author's praiſe; but in " my poor judgment, far ſhort of theſe " *Stanzes Irreguliers**.'

In ſhort, theſe books contain a great number of excellent rules, and valuable diſcoveries; and it may, with truth, be ſaid, that few have ever peruſed them, but have, unleſs it was their own fault, found themſelves not only better Anglers, but better men.

A book which had been publiſhed by Col. *Robert Venables*, ſome years before, called the *Experienced Angler, or Angling improved*, which has its merit, was alſo now reprinted, and the bookſellers prefixed to it a general title of the *Univerſal Angler*; under which they ſometimes ſold the three, bound together: but the book being written in a manner very different from that of the *Complete Angler*, it was not thought proper to let it accompany the preſent edition; however, ſome uſe has been made of it in the notes. It has a preface ſigned *J. W.* undoubtedly of *Walton*'s writing.

Walton was now in his eighty third year, an age which, to uſe his own words, " might have procured him a writ of eaſe †, " and

* Lives of the *Engliſh* dramatic Poets Art. CHARLES COTTON, Eſq;

† A diſcharge from the office of a Judge, or the ſtate and degree of a Serjeant at law. *Dugd. Orig. Jurid.* 139. that good man, and learned judge, Sir

" and ſecured him from all further trouble " in that kind;' when he undertook to write the life of Doctor *Robert Sanderſon*, Biſhop of *Lincoln**, which was publiſhed together with ſeveral of the Biſhop's pieces, and a ſermon of *Hooker*'s, in *Octavo* 1677 †.

And ſince little has been ſaid of the ſubjects of theſe ſeveral lives, it may not be amiſs juſt to mention what kind of men they were whom *Walton*, and indeed, mankind in general, thought ſo well worthy to be ſignalized by him.

George Croke, had obtained it ſome time before the writing of *Sanderſon*'s life. Life of Sir *George Croke*, in the preface to his Reports, Vol. III.

* See the letter from Biſhop *Barlow* to *Walton*, at the end of *Sanderſon*'s life.

† The following curious particular, relating to King *Charles* the firſt, is mentioned in this life of *Sanderſon*; which, as none of our hiſtorians have taken notice of it, is here given in *Walton*'s own words: " And let me " here take occaſion to tell the reader this truth, not " not commonly known, that in one of theſe conferences " this conſcientious King told Dr. *Sanderſon*, or one of " them that then waited with him, that the remem- " brance of two errors did much afflict him, which " were, his aſſent to the Earl of *Strafford*'s death, and " the aboliſhing Epiſcopacy in *Scotland*: and that, if " God ever reſtored him to be in a peaceable poſſeſſion " of his crown, he would demonſtrate his repentance " by a public confeſſion, and a voluntary penance, (I " think barefoot) from the Tower of *London*, or *White-* " *hall*, to *St. Paul*'s church, and deſire the people to " intercede with God for his pardon. I am ſure one of " them told it me, lives ſtill, and will witneſs it." Life of *Sanderſon*.

Doctor

Doctor *John Donne* was born in *London*, about the year 1573. At the age of eleven he was ſent to *Oxford*, from thence he was tranſplanted to *Cambridge*; where he applied himſelf very aſſiduouſly to the then faſhionable ſtudy of ſchool divinity. At ſeventeen he was admitted of *Lincoln*'s *Inn*; but not having determined what profeſſion to follow, and being beſides not thoroughly ſettled in his notions of religion, he made himſelf maſter of the romiſh controverſy, and became deeply ſkilled in the civil and canon law. He was one of the many young gentlemen that attended the *Earl* of *Eſſex* on the *Cales* expedition; at his return from which, he became ſecretary to the Lord Chancellor *Elleſmere*. Being very young, he fell paſſionately in love with, and privately married, a niece of Lady *Elleſmere*; one of the unhappy conſequences of which ſtep was, that, upon the repreſentations of Sir *George Moor* his wife's father, who was very much exaſperated, he was diſmiſſed from his attendance on the Lord Chancellor: he languiſhed under great diſtreſs, and poverty*, till about 1614, when, having been prevailed

* In a letter of his to an intimate friend, is the following moſt affecting paſſage: "There is not one perſon but myſelf well of my family: I have already loſt "half a child, and with that miſchance of her's, my wife "is fallen into ſuch a diſcompoſure, as would afflict her "too extremely, but that the ſickneſs of all her other

prevailed on by his friends, to enter into orders, he was made Dean of St. *Paul's*; but the misfortunes attending his marriage had not only broke his ſpirit, but ſo impaired his conſtitution, that he fell into a lingering conſumption, of which he died in 1631. Beſides a great number of ſermons, and a diſcourſe on ſuicide, he has left of his writing, letters to ſeveral perſons of honour, in *Quarto*, 1651, and a volume of poems firſt publiſhed, and as there is reaſon to ſuppoſe by *Walton* himſelf, in 1635; but laſt, in 1719, among which are, ſix moſt ſpirited ſatires, ſeveral whereof Mr. *Pope* has lately modernized. He was a man of exemplary virtue and holineſs, and, for the greatneſs of his parts, and the univerſality of his learning, has been compared to *Picus* of *Mirandola*.

Sir *Henry Wotton* was born in 1578. After he had finiſhed his ſtudies at *Oxford*, he reſided in *France*, *Germany*, and *Italy*; and at his return, attended the *Earl* of *Eſſex*. He was employed, by King *James* the firſt, in ſeveral foreign negociations; and went ambaſſador to *Venice*: upon his return to *England*,

" children ſtupifies her; of one of which, in good faith, " I have not much hope; and theſe meet with a for- " tune ſo ill provided for phyſic, and ſuch relief, that " if God ſhould eaſe us with burials, I know not how " to perform even that. But I flatter myſelf with this " hope, that I am dying too; for I cannot waſte faſter " than by ſuch griefs." Collect. of the lives in 1675. Page 26.

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he was made provoſt of *Eton* college; which honourable ſtation he held 'till his death. He was a man of great parts and learning: there are extant of his works, A view of the ſtate of *Chriſtendom* in *Folio*, and the volume of *Remains*, heretofore mentioned, in which are his *Elements of Architecture**; but his long reſidence abroad had greatly corrupted his ſtyle; which, though it conveys excellent ſentiments and obſervations, is, like Sir *William Temple*'s, too affectedly full of *Galliciſms*, and other foreign modes of expreſſion, to be read with pleaſure†.

Hooker's book of *Eccleſiaſtical Polity* is ſufficiently known; nor was the author leſs valuable as a man, than excellent as a writer; he, as well as the former, was known to *Walton*, and certainly merited the character he has given him.

Herbert was of a noble family; he had a frail body, but a vigorous mind, though of a very aſcetic turn; he wrote little elſe beſides poetry, which is altogether of the religious kind. At *Cambridge* he was celebrated for his parts, and in 1619 was cho-

* This treatiſe of Sir *Henry*'s is, undoubtedly, the beſt on the ſubject, of any in the modern languages: a few years after his death it was tranſlated into *Latin*, and printed at the end of *Vitruvius*, with an Eulogium on the author.

† As where he ſays, "*At* Auguſta *I took language* "that the Princes and States of the union had deferred "that aſſembly." *Reliqu.* Wotton. 489.

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ſen univerſity Orator. Biſhop *Hacket*, in his life of Archbiſhop *Williams*, Page 175, mentions a ſtrange circumſtance of him; which, for the ſingular manner of relating it, take in his own words: " Mr. *George* " *Herbert*, being prælector in the rhetorique " ſchool in *Cambridge*, *Anno* 1618, paſſed by " thoſe fluent orators that *domineered* in the " pulpits of *Athens* and *Rome*, and inſiſted " to read upon an oration of King *James*; " which he analyſed, ſhewed the concin- " nity of the parts; the propriety of the " phraſe; the height and power of it, to " move affections; the ſtyle, UTTERLY " UNKNOWN TO THE ANTIENTS, who " could not conceive what kingly eloquence " was; in reſpect of which, thoſe noted " *Demaggi*, were but *Lirelings*, and *triobo-* " *lary* rhetoricians."

If it were not that the Biſhop's account of this matter is ſo ridiculous as to ingroſs one's whole attention, one would be naturally led to enquire, whether Mr. *Herbert* was really ſo deſtitute of ſincerity and common ſenſe as to think and reaſon in this manner; or whether the eaſineſs of his nature could ſo far diſpoſe him to comply with the then faſhionable practice of celebrating the learning and eloquence of this ſhallow monarch, as this prelate would have us believe; his known goodneſs and contempt of riches and preferment, added to the general reputation of

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his ingenuity and parts muſt incline one to acquit him of ſuch meanneſs, and to aſcribe this extravagant encomium to the invention of a mind incapable of ſuggeſting to its poſſeſſor any other means of preferment than the moſt abject flattery.

Sanderſon was a man of very acute parts, and famous for his deep ſkill in caſuiſtry; that ſort of learning was formerly much cultivated among the *Romiſh* divines, with a view to qualify the younger clergy for the office of confeſſion; and it continued in faſhion here longer after the reformation than it was uſeful. In the year 1647 he drew up the famous *Oxford* reaſons againſt the covenant, which diſcover amazing penetration and ſagacity; and ſo diſtinguiſhed him, that, at the reſtauration, he was promoted to the Biſhopric of *Lincoln*. In 1661 he, by virtue of a commiſſion from King *Charles* the ſecond, aſſiſted at a conference, at the *Savoy*, between the Epiſcopal Clergy and Preſbyterian Divines, for ſettling a Liturgy *, and died in 1662. There are extant of his works, beſides a volume of ſermons, in *Folio*, *Caſes of Conſcience*, in *Duodecimo*, and ſeveral pieces printed at the end of his life. *Walton*'s acquaintance with this eminent perſon had a very early commencement; and what de-

* Complete Hiſt. of *Engl.* Vol. III. Page 253.

gree

gree of intimacy ſubſiſted between them will appear by the following account, which ſufficiently characterizes the humility of the good Doctor, and the ſimplicity of honeſt *Iſaac*. " About the time of his printing " this excellent preface [to his ſermons firſt " printed in 1655] I met him accidentally in " *London*, in ſad-coloured cloaths, and, God " knows, far from being coſtly. The place " of our meeting was near to *Little-Britain*; " where he had been to buy a book, which " he then had in his hand. We had no in- " clination to part preſently; and therefore " turned, to ſtand *in a corner*, under a *pent-* " *houſe* (for it began to rain) and immedi- " ately the wind roſe, and the rain increaſed " ſo much, that both became ſo inconve- " nient, as to force us into a *cleanly houſe*; " where we had *bread*, *cheeſe*, *ale*, and a *fire*, " for our money. This rain and wind were " ſo obliging to me, as to force our ſtay " there for at leaſt an hour, to my great " content and advantage; for in that time " he made to me many uſeful obſervations, " with much clearneſs and conſcientious " freedom *."

Such were the perſons whoſe virtues *Walton* was ſo laudably employed in celebrating; and ſurely he has done but juſtice in ſaying that

* Life of *Sanderſon*.

" Theſe

" Theſe were honourable men in their ge-
" nerations." *Eccleſiaſticus* XLIV. 7*.

And indeed the ſame may be ſaid of all his friends; who were of ſuch diſtinguiſhed characters, and ſo many in number †, that it is matter of great wonder, by what means a man, in his ſtation, could obtain admittance among ſo illuſtrious a ſociety; unleſs we will ſuppoſe, as doubtleſs was the caſe, that his integrity and amiable diſpoſition attracted the notice and conciliated the affections of all with whom he had any concern.

It is obſervable, that not only theſe, but the reſt of *Walton*'s friends, were eminent royaliſts; and that he himſelf was in great repute for his attachment to the royal cauſe, will appear by the following relation, taken from *Aſhmole*'s hiſtory of the order of the garter, Page 228; where the author ſpeaking of the enſigns of the order, ſays; " Nor
" will it be unfitly here remembred by what
" good fortune the preſent ſovereign's leſſer
" *George*, ſet with fair diamonds, was pre-

* Motto to the Collection of Lives.

† In the number of his intimate friends we find Archbiſhop *Uſher*, Archbiſhop *Sheldon*, Biſhop *Morton*, Biſhop *Barlow*, Dr. *Fuller*, Dr. *Price*, Dr. *Woodford*, Dr. *Featly*, Dr. *Holdſworth*, Sir *Edward Byſh*, Mr. *Cranmer*, and that celebrated ſcholar and critic Mr. *John Hales*, of *Eton*.

" ſerved,

" ſerved, after the defeat given to the *Scotch* " forces at *Worceſter*, *Ann.* 4. Car. 2. A- " mong the reſt of his attendants then diſ- " perſt, Colonel *Blague* was one; who (ta- " king ſhelter at *Blore-pipe* houſe) in *Staf-* " *fordſhire*, where one Mr. *George Barlow* " then dwelt, delivered his wife this *George* " to ſecure. Within a week after Mr. *Bar-* " *low* himſelf carried it to *Robert Milward*, " Eſq; he being then a priſoner to the par- " liament, in the garriſon of *Stafford*; and " by his means was it happily preſerved, " and reſtored; for not long after, he deli- " vered to Mr. *Iſaac Walton* (a man well " known, and as well beloved of all good " men; and will be better known to poſte- " rity by his ingenious pen, in the lives of " Dr. *Donne*, Sir *Henry Wotton*, Mr. *Rich-* " *ard Hooker*, and Mr. *George Herbert*) to be " given to Colonel *Blague*, then a priſoner in " the tower; who, conſidering it had al- " ready paſt ſo many dangers, was per- " ſuaded it could yet ſecure one hazardous " attempt of his own; and thereupon lea- " ving the tower without leave-taking, " haſted the preſentation of it to the preſent " ſovereign's hand."

The religious opinions of good men are of little importance to others, any farther than they neceſſarily conduce to virtuous practice; ſince we ſee that, as well the different perſuaſions of *Papiſt* and *Proteſtant*, as the ſe-

veral

veral no leſs militant parties into which the reformed religion is unhappily ſubdivided, have produced men equally remarkable for their talents, and exemplary in their lives; but were it neceſſary to be particular on this head, with reſpect to our author, we ſhould ſay of him, that he was a very dutiful ſon of the church of *England*; and that though he ſeems to ſpeak of ſuch as ſeparated from it with ſome acrimony *, poſſibly the age he lived in might, in ſome meaſure, excuſe him. He had lived to ſee hypocriſy called in to the aid of a cauſe that needed no ſuch auxiliary; the important queſtion of toleration had not been diſcuſſed; the extent of regal prerogative, and the bounds of civil liberty, had never been aſcertained; and he, like many other good men, might imagine the intereſts of the church, and thoſe of religion, inſeparable.

Beſides the works of *Walton*, abovementioned, there are extant, of his writing, verſes on the death of Dr. *Donne*, beginning, "Our *Donne* is dead," verſes before *Alexander Brome*'s poems, *Octavo* 1664, before *Shirley*'s poems, *Octavo*, 1646, and before *Cartwright*'s plays and poems, *Octavo*, 1651. He wrote alſo the following lines under a print of Dr. *Donne*, before his poems, publiſhed in 1639.

* *Complete Angler*, Page 130.

This

This was for youth, ſtrength, mirth, and wit that time
Moſt count their golden Age ; but was not thine :*
Thine was thy later years, ſo much refin'd
From youth's droſſe, mirth, and wit ; as thy pure mind
Thought (like the Angels) nothing but the praiſe
Of thy creator, in thoſe laſt, beſt days.
Witnes this book (thy embleme) which begins
With love ; but endes, with ſighes, and teares for ſins.

The late Mr. *Des Maizeaux*, ſome years ago, told a gentleman now living †, that there were ſeveral letters of *Walton* extant, in the *Aſhmolean* Muſeum, relating to a life of Sir *Henry Savile*, which *Walton* had entertained thoughts of writing.

In 1683, when he was ninety years old, he publiſhed *Thealma* and *Clearchus*, *a paſtoral Hiſtory, in ſmooth and eaſy verſe; written long ſince by* John Chalkhill, *Eſq; an acquaintant and friend of* Edmund Spenſer: to this poem he wrote a preface containing a very amiable character of the author.

He lived but a very little time after the publication of this poem: for, as *Wood* ſays,

* Alluding to his age, *viz.* eighteen when the picture was painted from which the print was taken.

† The very learned and ingenious *William Oldys*, Eſq; *Norroy*, King at Arms, to whom the reader and myſelf are indebted for the life of Mr. *Cotton*, prefixed to the ſecond part of this work.

" he

" he ended his days on the fifteenth day of " *December*, 1683, in the great froſt at " *Winchester*, in the houſe of Dr. *William* " *Hawkins*, a prebendary of the church " there; where he lies buried *."

Walton's wife was the ſiſter of Dr. *Thomas Ken*, Biſhop of *Bath* and *Wells*; by her he had a ſon named *Iſaac* †, who, as *Cotton* ſays, had been in *France*, and at *Rome*, and *Venice*; he was bred a Clergyman, and became a Reſidentiary of the cathedral church of *Sarum*; he died a bachelor, at a good old age; and his memory is ſtill greatly reſpected in that dioceſe: of this ſon mention is made in a remarkable will of Dr. *Donne*, the younger, printed on a half ſheet, in 1662: whereby he bequeaths to *Walton* all his *Father*'s writings and common-place-book; which, he ſays, may be of uſe to his ſon, if he makes him a ſcholar ‡.

He had alſo a daughter, married to the abovenamed Dr. *William Hawkins*; who had iſſue by her a daughter named *Ann*, and a

* *Athen. Oxon.* Vol. I. Col. 305.

† Short account of the life of Biſhop *Ken*, by *W. Hawkins*, Eſq; *Octavo*, 1713.

‡ Mr. *Cotton*, *Compl. Angl.* Part II. Page 45, ſpeaks of this Gentleman as having been at the abovementioned places. And it further appears, that he, with his uncle Biſhop *Ken*, in 1675, being the year of the Jubilee, took a tour to *Rome*. Mr. *Walton* was then a Batchelor of Arts, and of *Chriſt-church College* in *Oxford*. Biogr. Brit. KEN.

ſon; this ſon was *William Hawkins*, Eſq; Serjeant at law, one of the ableſt lawyers of the laſt age, and author of the well-known treatiſe of the pleas of the crown.

A few months before his death he made his will; which appears, by the peculiarity of many expreſſions, contained in it, as well as by the hand, to be of his own writing; as there is ſomething characteriſtic in this laſt ſolemn act of his life. it has been thought proper to conclude this account with the following authentic copy thereof.

Auguſt the ninth, one thouſand ſix hundred eighty three.

IN the Name of God, Amen. I IZAAK WALTON, the elder, of *Winchester*, being this preſent day, in the ninetyeth year of my age, and in perfect memory, for which praiſed be God, but conſidering how ſuddainly I may be deprived of both, do therefore make this my laſt will and teſtament as followeth: And firſt, I do declare my belief to be, that there is only one God, who hath made the whole world, and me and all mankind, to whom I ſhall give an account of all my actions, which are not to be juſtified; but I hope pardoned, for the merits of my Saviour *Jeſus*, and becauſe the profeſſion of Chriſtianity does, at this time, ſeem to be ſubdivided into Papiſt and Proteſtante,

eſtante, I take it, at leaſt, to be convenient to declare my belief to be, in all points of faith, as the church of *England* now profeſſeth: and this I do the rather, becauſe of a very long and very true friendſhip with ſome of the *Roman* church. And for my worldly Eſtate (which I have neither got by falſhood or flattery, or the extreme cruelty of the law of this nation*) I do hereby give and bequeath it as followeth: firſt, I give my ſon in law, Doctor *Hawkins*, and to his wife, to them I give all my title and right of or in a part of, a houſe and ſhop in *Pater-noſter-row*, in *London*, which I hold by leaſe from the Lord Biſhop of *London* for about fifty years to come. And I do alſo give to them all my right and title of or to a houſe in *Chancery-lane London*, wherein Mrs. *Greinwood* now dwelleth, in which is now about ſixteen years to come: I give theſe two leaſes to them, they ſaving my executor from all damage concerning the ſame. And I give to my ſon, *Izaak*, all my right and title to a leaſe of *Norington* farme, which I hold from the Lord Biſhop of *Winton*; and I do alſo give him all my right and title to a farm or land near to *Stafford*, which I bought of Mr. *Walter Noell*; I ſay, I give it to him and his heirs for ever; but upon the condition fol-

* Alluding, perhaps, to that fundamental maxim of our law, *Summum jus eſt ſumma injuria.*

lowing, namely: if my ſon ſhall not marry before he ſhall be of the age of forty and one years, or, being married, ſhall dye before the ſaid age, and leave no ſon to inherit the ſaid farm or land; or if his ſon or ſons ſhall not live to attain the age of twenty and one years, to diſpoſe otherways of it; then I give the ſaid farme or land to the towne or corporation of *Stafford*, in which I was borne, for the good and benefit of ſome of the ſaid towne, as I ſhall direct, and as followeth: but firſt note, that it is at this preſent time rented for twenty one pounds ten ſhillings a year, and is like to hold the ſaid rent, if care be taken to keep the barn and houſing in repair; and I would have, and do give ten pound of the ſaid rent, to bind out yearly, two boys, the ſons of honeſt and poor parents, to be apprentices to ſome tradeſmen or handycraft-men, to the intent the ſaid boys may the better afterward get their own living. And I do alſo give five pound yearly, out of the ſaid rent, to be given to ſome maid-ſervant, that hath attained the age of twenty and one year, not leſs, and dwelt long in one ſervice, or to ſome honeſt poor man's daughter, that hath attained to that age, to be paid her at or on the day of her marriage: and this being done, my will is, that what rent ſhall remain of the ſaid farm or land, ſhall be diſpoſed of as followeth: firſt I do give twenty ſhillings yearly,

to

to be ſpent by the Major of *Stafford*, and thoſe that ſhall collect the ſaid rent, and diſpoſe of it as I have and ſhall hereafter direct, and that what money or rent ſhall remain undiſpoſed of, ſhall be imployed to buy coals for ſome poor people, that ſhall moſt need them, in the ſaid towne; the ſaid coals to be delivered the firſt weeke in *January*, or in every firſt weeke in *February*; I ſay then, becauſe I take that time to be the hardeſt and moſt pinching times with poor people; and God reward thoſe that ſhall do this without partialitie, and with honeſty, and a good conſcience. And if the ſaid Major and others of the ſaid towne of *Stafford*, ſhall prove ſo negligent, or diſhoneſt, as not to imploy the rent by me given as intended and expreſt in this my will, which God forbid, then I give the ſaid rents and profits of the ſaid farm or land to the town and chief magiſtrates, or governors of *Eccleſhall*, to be diſpoſed of by them in ſuch manner as I have ordered the diſpoſal of it by the town of *Stafford*, the ſaid farm or land being near the town of *Eccleſhall*: and I give to my ſon-in-law, Doctor *Hawkins*, whom I love as my own ſon, and to my danghter, his wife, and my ſon *Izaak*, to each of them a ring, with theſe words or motto: " *Love* " *my memory, J. W. obiit.* "
to the Lord Biſhop of *Winton* a ring, with this motto; " *A mite for a million, J. W.* " *obiit* " and to the friends here-

after

after named, I give to each of them a ring with this motto; " *A friend's farewell, J. W. obiit* " and my will is, the ſaid rings be delivered within forty days after my death: and that the price or value of all the ſaid rings ſhall be thirteen ſhillings and four pence a piece. I give to Doctor *Hawkins*, Doctor *Donne*'s, ſermons, which I have heard preacht, and read with much content. To my ſon *Izaak*, I give Doctor *Sibbs* his ſoul's conflict; and to my daughter his *Bruiſed Reed*, deſiring them to read them ſo as to be well acquainted with them. And I alſo give unto her all my books at *Wincheſter* and *Droxford* and whatever in thoſe two places are, or I can call mine, except a trunk of linnen, which I give to my ſon *Izaak*; but if he do not live to marry, or make uſe of it, then I give the ſame to my grandaughter, *Ann Hawkins*; and I give my daughter, Doctor *Hall*'s works, which be now at *Farnham*. To my ſon *Izaak*, I give all my books, not yet given, at *Farnham* Caſtell, and a deſke of prints and pictures; alſo a cabinett near my bed's head; in which are ſome little things that he will value, though of no great worth. And my will and deſire is, that he will be kind to his aunt *Beacham*, and his aunt *Roſe Ken*, by allowing the firſt about fifty ſhillings a year, in or for bacon and cheeſe, not more, and paying four pounds a year toward the boarding of her ſon's dyet:

To

To Mr. *John Whitehead*, for his aunt *Ken*, I desire him to be kind to her, according to her necessity and his own abilitie, and I commend one of her children, to breed up as I have said I intend to do, if he shall be able to do it, as I know he will; for they be good folke. I give to Mr. *John Darbyshire* the sermons of Mr. *Anthony Farringdon*, or of Dr. *Sanderson*, which my executor thinks fit. To my servant, *Thomas Edgill*, I give five pound in money, and all my cloths, linnen and woollen, except one suit of cloths; which I give to Mr. *Holinshed*, and forty shillings, if the said *Thomas* be my servant at my death; if not, my cloths only. And I give my old friend, Mr. *Richard Marriot*, ten pounds in money, to be paid him within three months after my death; and I desire my son to shew kindness to him if he shall neede, and my son can spare it: and I do hereby will and declare my son *Izaak* to be my sole executor of this my last will and testament, and doctor *Hawkins* to see that he performs it; which I doubt not but he will. I desire my burial may be near the place of my death, and free from any Ostentation or charge, but privately. This I make to be my last will, to which I shall only add the codicil for rings, this sixteenth day of *August*, one thousand six hundred eighty three, *Izaak Walton*. witness to this will.

The

The rings I give are as on the other ſide: to my brother *Jon Ken*, to my ſiſter his wife, to my brother, Doctor *Ken*, to my ſiſter *Pye*, to Mr. *Francis Morley*, to Mr. *George Vernon*, to his wife, to his three daughters, to Miſtris *Nelſon*, to Mr. Richard *Walton*, to Mr. *Palmer*, to Mr. *Taylor*, to Mr. *Tho. Garrard*, to the Lord Biſhop of *Sarum*, to Mr. *Rede* his ſervant, to my cozen *Dorothy Kenrick*, to my couſin *Lewin*, to Mr. *Walter Higgs*, to Mr. *Charles Cotton*, to Mr. *Richard Marryot* 22, to my brother *Beacham*, to my ſiſter his wife, to the lady *Anne How*, to Mrs. *King*, doctor Phillip's wife, to Mr. *Valentine Harecourt*, to Mrs. *Eliza Johnſon*, to Mrs. *Mary Rogers*, to Mrs. *Eliza Milward*, to Mrs. *Dorothy Wallop*, to Mr. *Will. Milward* of *Chriſt Church Oxford*, to Mr. *John Darbyſhire*, to Mr. *Underhill*, to Mrs. *Rock*, to Mr. *Peter White*, to Mr. *John Lloyde*, to my couſin *Creinſell* s widow, Mrs. *Dalbin* muſt not be forgotten 16, *Izaak Walton*. Note that ſeveral lines are blotted out of this will, for they were twice repeated: and that this will is now ſigned and ſealed this twenty and fourth day of October, one thouſand ſix hundred eighty three, in the preſence of us: witneſs, *Abraham Markland*, *Joſ. Taylor*, *Thomas Crawley*.

To the Right Worſhipful

JOHN OFFLEY,

OF

MADELY Manor, in the County of *Stafford*, Eſq;

My Moſt Honoured Friend,

SIR,

Have made ſo ill uſe of your former favours, as by them to be encouraged to intreat that they may be enlarged to the patronage and protection of this Book; and I have put on a modeſt confidence, that I ſhall not be deny'd, becauſe it is a Diſcourſe of Fiſh and Fiſhing, which you know ſo well, and both love and practiſe ſo much.

You are aſſured, though there be ignorant men of another belief, that Angling is an Art; and you know that Art better than others; and that this truth is demonſtrated by the fruits of that pleaſant labour which you enjoy when you purpoſe to give reſt to your mind, and diveſt yourſelf of your more ſerious buſineſs, and, which is often, dedicate a day or two to this recreation.

At which time if common Anglers ſhould attend you, and be eye-witneſſes of the ſucceſs, not of your fortune but your ſkill, it would doubtleſs beget in them an emulation to be like you, and that emulation might beget an induſtrious diligence to be ſo; but I know it is not attainable by common capacities. And there be now many men of great wiſdom, learning and experience which love and practiſe this Art, that know I ſpeak the truth.

Sir,

Sir, This pleaſant curioſity of Fiſh and Fiſhing, of which you are ſo great a maſter, has been thought worthy the Pens and Practiſes of divers in other nations, that have been reputed men of great learning and wiſdom, and amongſt thoſe of this nation, I remember Sir *Henry Wotton* (a dear lover of this Art) has told me that his Intentions were to write a Diſcourſe of the Art, and in praiſe of Angling, and doubtleſs he had done ſo, if death had not prevented him; the remembrance of which hath often made me ſorry; for if he had lived to do it, then the unlearned Angler had ſeen ſome better Treatiſe of this Art, a Treatiſe that might have proved worthy his peruſal, which, tho' ſome have undertaken, I could never yet ſee in *Engliſh*.

But mine may be thought as weak, and as unworthy of common view; and I do here freely confeſs, that I ſhould rather excuſe myſelf, than

cenſure others, my own Diſcourſe being liable to ſo many exceptions; againſt which you, Sir, might make this one, That it can contribute nothing to your knowledge. And leſt a longer Epiſtle may diminiſh your pleaſure, I ſhall make this no longer than to add this following truth, That I am really,

SIR,

Your affectionate Friend,

And moſt humble Servant,

Iz. Wa.

To

TO ALL

READERS

OF THIS

DISCOURSE

But especially to the

HONEST ANGLER.

I Think fit to tell thee these following Truths, That I did neither undertake, nor write, nor publish, and much less own, this Discourse to please myself: and having been too easily drawn to do all to please others, as I proposed not the gaining of credit by this undertaking, so I would not willingly lose any part of that to which I had a just title before I begun it, and do therefore desire and hope, if I deserve not commendations, yet, I may obtain pardon.

And though this Discourse may be liable to some exceptions, yet I cannot doubt but that

most Readers may receive so much pleasure or profit by it, as may make it worthy the time of their perusal, if they be not too grave or too busy men. And this is all the confidence that I can put on concerning the merit of what is here offered to their consideration and censure; and if the last prove too severe, as I have a liberty, so I am resolv'd to use it and neglect all sour censures.

And I wish the Reader also to take notice, that in writing of it I have made myself a recreation of a recreation; and that it might prove so to him, and not read dull and tediously, I have in several places mix'd, not any scurrility, but some innocent, harmless mirth, of which, if thou be a severe, sour complexion'd man, then I here disallow thee to be a competent judge; for Divines say, There are offences given, and offences not given but taken.

And I am the willinger to justify the pleasant part of it, because though it is known I can be serious at seasonable times, yet the whole discourse is, or rather was, a picture of my own disposition, especially in such days and times as I have laid aside business, and gone a fishing with honest Nat. *and* R. Roe; *but they are gone, and with them most of my pleasant hours, even as a shadow, that passeth away, and returns not.*

And

And next let me add this, that he that likes not the book ſhould like the excellent picture of the Trout, and ſome of the other fiſh; which I may take a liberty to commend, becauſe they concern not myſelf. *

Next let me tell the Reader, that in that which is the more uſeful part of this Diſcourſe, that is to ſay, the obſervations of the nature and breeding, and ſeaſons, and catching of Fiſh, I am not ſo ſimple as not to know, that a captious Reader may find exceptions againſt ſomething ſaid of ſome of theſe; and therefore I muſt intreat him to conſider, that experience teaches us to know, that ſeveral countries alter the time, and I think almoſt the manner, of fiſhes breeding, but doubtleſs of their being in ſeaſon; as may appear by three Rivers in Monmouthſhire, *namely* Severn, Wye, *and* Uſk, *where* Camden Brit. 633. *obſerves, that in the River* Wye, *Salmon are in ſeaſon from* September *to* April, *and we are certain, that in* Thames *and* Trent, *and in moſt other Rivers, they be in ſeaſon the ſix hotter months.*

* Of theſe Cuts mention is made at large in *Walton*'s life; the Plates having long ſince been worn out, thoſe in the preſent Edition are new engrav'd; and there are now added, Deſigns of the principal ſcenes in the book, with the figures dreſs'd in the habits of the time when it was written.

Now for the Art of catching fish, that is to say, how to make a man that was none, to be an Angler by a book; he that undertakes it shall undertake a harder task than Mr. Hales, *a most valiant and excellent Fencer, who in a printed book called,* A private School of Defence, *undertook to teach that art or science, and was laugh'd at for his labour. Not but that many useful things might be learnt by that book, but he was laugh'd at, because that art was not to be taught by words, but practice: and so must Angling. And note also, that in this Discourse I do not undertake to say all that is known, or may be said of it, but I undertake to acquaint the Reader with many things that are not usually known to every Angler; and I shall leave gleanings and observations enough to be made out of the experience of all that love and practice this recreation, to which I shall encourage them. For Angling may be said to be so like the Mathematicks, that it can ne'er be fully learnt; at least not so fully, but that there will still be more new experiments left for the tryal of other men that succeed us.*

But I think all that love this game may here learn something that may be worth their money, if they be not poor and needy men; and in case they be, I then wish them to forbear to buy it; for I write not to get money, but for pleasure.

and

and this Diſcourſe boaſts of no more; for I hate to promiſe much, and deceive the Reader.

And however it proves to him, yet I am ſure I have found a high content in the ſearch and conference of what is here offer'd to the Reader's view and cenſure: I wiſh him as much in the peruſal of it, and ſo I might here take my leave, but will ſtay a little and tell him, that whereas it is ſaid by many, that in fly-fiſhing for a Trout, the Angler muſt obſerve his twelve ſeveral flies for the twelve months of the year; I ſay, he that follows that rule, ſhall be as ſure to catch fiſh, and, be as wiſe, as he that makes Hay by the fair days in an Almanack, and no ſurer; for thoſe very flies that uſe to appear about and on the water in one month of the year, may the following year come almoſt a month ſooner or later; as the ſame year proves colder or hotter; and yet in the following Diſcourſe I have ſet down the twelve flies that are in reputation with many Anglers, and they may ſerve to give him ſome obſervations concerning them. And he may note that there are in Wales *and other Countries, peculiar flies, proper to the particular place or Country; and doubtleſs, unleſs a man makes a fly to counterfeit that very fly in that place, he is like to loſe his labour, or much of it: But for the generality, three or four flies neat and rightly made, and not too big, ſerve for a Trout in*

moſt

moſt Rivers all the Summer. And for Winter fly-fiſhing, it is as uſeful as an Almanack out of date. And of theſe, becauſe as no man is born an artiſt, ſo no man is born an Angler, I thought fit to give thee this notice.

*When I have told the Reader, that in this fifth * Impreſſion there are many enlargements, gathered both by my own obſervation, and the communication with friends, I ſhall ſtay him no longer than to wiſh him a rainy evening to read this following Diſcourſe; and that, if he be an honeſt Angler, the Eaſt wind may never blow when he goes a Fiſhing.*

J. W.

* The Fifth, as it is the laſt of the editions publiſh'd in the author's lifetime, has been carefully followed in the preſent publication. *See* the Author's Life.

TO

To my dear BROTHER

Mr. IZAAK WALTON,

UPON HIS

COMPLEAT ANGLER.

ERASMUS in his learned Colloquies
Has mixt ſome toys, that by varieties
He might entice all Readers: for in him
Each child may wade, or talleſt giant ſwim.
And ſuch is this Diſcourſe: there's none ſo low,
Or highly learn'd, to whom hence may not flow
Pleaſure and information; both which are
Taught us with ſo much art, that I might ſwear
Safely, the choiceſt Critick cannot tell,
Whether your matchleſs judgment moſt excell
In Angling or its praiſe: where commendation
Firſt charms, then makes an art a recreation.
'Twas ſo to me; who ſaw the chearful Spring
Pictur'd in every meadow, heard birds ſing
Sonnets in every grove, ſaw fiſhes play
In the cool cryſtal ſtreams, like lambs in May:
And they may play, till Anglers read this book;
But after, 'tis a wiſe fiſh ſcapes a hook.

Jo. FLOUD, *Mr. of Arts.*

TO

TO THE

READER of the *Compleat Angler.*

FIRST mark the Title well; my Friend that gave it
Has made it good; this Book deſerves to have it.
For he that views it with judicious looks,
Shall find it full of arts, baits, lines and hooks.
The world the river is, both you and I,
And all mankind are either fiſh or fry:
If we pretend to reaſon, firſt or laſt
His baits will tempt us, and his hooks hold faſt.
Pleaſure or profit, either proſe or rhime,
If not at firſt, will doubtleſs take's in time.
Here ſits in ſecret bleſt Theology,
Waited upon by grave Philoſophy
Both natural and moral, Hiſtory
Deck'd and adorn'd with flowers of Poetry,
The matter and expreſſion ſtriving which
Shall moſt excel in worth, yet not ſeem rich;
There is no danger in his baits, that hook
Will prove the ſafeſt, that is ſureſt took.
Nor are we taught alone, but, which is beſt,
We ſhall be wholſom, and be toothſom dreſt:
Dreſt to be fed, not to be fed upon;
And danger of a ſurfeit here is none.
The ſolid food of ſerious contemplation
Is ſauc'd here with ſuch harmleſs recreation,

That

That an ingenious and religious mind
Cannot inquire for more than it may find
Ready at once prepared, either t'excite
Or ſatisfy a curious appetite.
More praiſe is due; for 'tis both poſitive
And truth, which once was interrogative,
And utter'd by the Poet then in jeſt,
Et piſcatorem piſcis amare poteſt.

CH. HARVIE, *Mr. of Arts.*

To my dear FRIEND

Mr. IZAAK WALTON,

IN

PRAISE of ANGLING,

Which we both love.

DOWN by this ſmooth ſtream's wand'ring ſide,
Adorn'd and perfum'd with the pride
Of *Flora*'s wardrobe, where the ſhrill
Aerial Choir expreſs their ſkill,
Firſt in alternate melody,
And then in chorus all agree.
Whilſt the charm'd fiſh, as extaſy'd
With ſounds, to his own throat deny'd
Scorns his dull element, and ſprings
I'th' air, as if his fins were wings.
'Tis here that pleaſures ſweet and high
Proſtrate to our embraces lye.

Such

Such as to body, ſoul or fame,
Create no ſickneſs, ſin or ſhame.
Roſes not fenc'd with pricks grow here;
No ſting to th' hony-bag is near.
But, what's perhaps their prejudice,
They difficulty want and price.
An obvious rod, a twiſt of hair,
With hook hid in an inſect, are
Engines of ſport, would fit the wiſh
O'th' Epicure and fill his diſh.
In this clear ſtream let fall a Grub,
And ſtraight take up a Dace or Chub.
I'th' mud your worm provokes a Snig;
Which being faſt, if it prove big
The *Gotham* folly will be found
Diſcreet, e're ta'en ſhe muſt be drown'd.
The Tench, Phyſician of the Brook,
In yon dead hole expects your hook,
Which having firſt your paſtime been,
Serves then for meat or medicine.
Ambuſh'd behind that root doth ſtay
A Pike, to catch and be a prey.
The treacherous quill in this ſlow ſtream
Betrays the hunger of a Bream.
And at that nimbler ford, no doubt,
Your falſe fly cheats a ſpeckled Trout.
When you theſe creatures wiſely chuſe
To practiſe on, which to your uſe
Owe their creation, and when
Fiſh from your arts do reſcue men;
To plot, delude, and circumvent,
Enſnare and ſpoil, is innocent.
Here by theſe cryſtal ſtreams you may
Preſerve a conſcience clear as they;

And when by ſullen thoughts you find
Your harraſſed, not buſied, mind
In ſable melancholy clad,
Diſtemper'd, ſerious, turning ſad;
Hence fetch your cure, caſt in your bait,
All anxious thoughts and cares will ſtraight
Fly with ſuch ſpeed, they'll ſeem to be
Poſſeſt with the *Hydrophobie*.
The water's calmneſs in your breaſt,
And ſmoothneſs on your brow ſhall reſt.
Away with ſports of charge and noiſe,
And give me cheap and ſilent joys:
Such as *Actæon*'s game purſue,
Their fate oft makes the Tale ſeem true.
The ſick or ſullen Hawk to day
Flies not; to morrow, quite away.
Patience and purſe to cards and dice
Too oft are made a ſacrifice:
The daughters dower, th' inheritance
O'th' ſon, depend on one mad chance.
The harms and miſchiefs which th' abuſe
Of wine doth every day produce,
Make good the doctrine of the *Turks*,
That in each grape a Devil lurks.
And by yon fading ſapleſs tree,
'Bout which the Ivy twin'd you ſee,
His fate's foretold, who fondly places
His bliſs in woman's ſoft embraces.
All pleaſures, but the Angler's, bring
I'th' tail repentance like a ſting.
Then on theſe banks let me ſit down,
Free from the toilſome ſword and gown,
And pity thoſe that do affect
To conquer nations and protect.

My

My reed affords ſuch true content,
Delights ſo ſweet and innocent,
As ſeldom fall unto the lot
Of ſcepters, though they'r juſtly got.

1649 THO. WEAVER, *Mr. of Arts.*

TO THE

READERS

OF

My moſt ingenious FRIEND's Book,

The Compleat Angler.

HE that both knew and writ the lives of men,
Such as were once, but muſt not be agen:
Witneſs his matchleſs *Donne* and *Wotton*, by
Whoſe aid he could their ſpeculations try:
He that convers'd with Angels, ſuch as were
Ouldſworth * and *Featly* †, each a ſhining ſtar
Shewing the way to *Bethlem*; each a Saint;
Compar'd to whom our zealots now but paint,
He that our pious and learn'd *Morley* § knew,
And from him ſuck'd wit and devotion too.

* Dr. *Richard Holdſworth.* See an account of him in the *Faſt. Oxon.* 207; and in *Ward*'s Lives of the *Greſham* Profeſſors.

† Dr. *Daniel Featly*, for whom ſee *Athen. Oxon.* 603.

§ Dr. *George Morley*, Biſhop of *Wincheſter.*

He

He that from theſe ſuch excellencies fetch'd,
That *He* could tell how high and far they reach'd;
What learning this, what graces th'other had;
And in what ſeveral dreſs each ſoul was clad.

Reader, this *He*, this Fiſherman, comes forth,
And in theſe Fiſhers weeds would ſhroud his worth.
Now his mute harp is on a willow hung,
With which when finely touch'd, and fitly ſtrung,
He could friend's paſſions for theſe times allay;
Or chain his fellow Anglers from their prey.
But now the muſick of his pen is ſtill,
And he ſits by a brook watching a quill:
Where with a fixt eye, and a ready hand,
He ſtudies firſt to hook, and then to land
Some Trout, or Pearch, or Pike; and having done,
Sits on a Bank, and tells how this was won,
And that eſcap'd his hook; which with a wile
Did eat the bait, and Fiſherman beguile. (thrown,
Thus whilſt ſome vex they from their lands are
He joys to think the waters are his own,

And like the *Dutch*, he gladly can agree
To live at peace now, and have fiſhing free.

April 3, 1650.

EDW. POWEL, *Mr. of Arts.*

To my Dear Brother,

Mr. IZAAK WALTON,

ON HIS

COMPLEAT ANGLER.

THIS book is so like you, and you like it,
For harmless mirth, expression, art and wit,
That I protest ingenuously 'tis true,
I love this mirth, art, wit, the book and you.

Rob. Floud, C.

Clariſſimo amiciſſimoq; Fratri,

Domino ISAACO WALTON,

Artis piſcatoriæ peritiſſimo.

UNicus eſt medicus reliquorum piſcis, & iſtis,
Fas quibus eſt medicum tangere, certa ſalus.
Hic typus eſt Salvatoris mirandus Jeſu,
** Litera myſterium quælibet hujus habet.*
Hunc cupio, hunc capias, bone frater arundinis, (ἰχθὺν;
† Solveret hic pro me debita, teque Deo.
Piſcis is eſt, & piſcator, mihi credito, qualem
Vel piſcatorem piſcis amare velit.

* ΙΧΘΥΣ, *Piſcis.*

Ι Ἰησοῦς, *Jeſus.*
Χ Χριστὸς, *Chriſtus.*
Θ Θεοῦ, *Dei.*
Υ Υἱὸς, *Filius.*
Σ Σωτὴρ, *Salvator.*

† Matt. xvii. 27. the laſt words of the Chapter.

HENRY BAYLEY, *Artium Magiſter.*

Ad Virum optimum, & Piſcatorem peritiſſimum,

ISAACUM WALTONUM.

Magiſter artis docte piſcatoriæ,
Waltone *ſalve, magne dux arundinis,*
Seu tu reductâ valle ſolus ambulas,
Præterfluentes interim obſervans aquas,
Seu fortè puri ſtans in amnis margine,
Sive in tenaci gramine & ripâ ſedens,
Fallis peritâ ſquameum pecus manu;
O te beatum! qui procul negotiis,
Foriq; & urbis pulvere & ſtrepitu carens,
Extraq; turbam, ad lenè manantes aquas
Vagos honeſtâ fraude piſces decipis.
Dum cætera ergo pœnè gens mortalium
Aut retia invicem ſibi & technas ſtruunt,
Donis, ut hamo, aut divites captant ſenes,
Gregi natantûm tu interim nectis dolos,
Voracem ineſcas advenam hamo lucium,
Avidamvè percam parvulo alburno capis,
Aut verme ruffo, muſculâ aut truttam levi,
Cautumvè cyprinum, & ferè indocilem capi
Calamoq; linoq; ars at hunc ſuperat tua,
Medicamvè tincam, gobium aut eſcâ trahis,
Gratum palato gobium, parvum licet,
Prædamvè, non æque ſalubrem barbulum,
Etſi ampliorem, & myſtace inſignem gravi.

Hæ

Hæ ſunt tibi artes, dum annus & tempus ſinunt,
Et nulla tranſit abſq; linea dies.
Nec ſola praxis, ſed theoria & tibi
Nota artis hujus ; unde tu ſimul bonus
Piſcator, idem & ſcriptor ; & calami potens
Utriuſq;, necdum & ictus, & tamen ſapis.
Ut hamiotam nempe tironem inſtruas !
Stylo eleganti ſcribis en Halieutica
Oppianus *alter, artis & methodum tuæ, &*
Præcepta promis rite piſcatoria,
Varias & eſcas piſcium, indolem & genus.
Nec tradere artem ſat putas piſcariam,
(Virtutis eſt & hæc tamen quædam ſchola
Patientiamq; & temperantiam docet)
Documenta quin majora das, & regulas
Sublimioris artis, & perennia
Monimenta morum, vitæ & exempla optima ;
Dum tu profundum ſcribis Hookerum, *& pium*
Donnum *ac deſertum, ſanctum &* Herbertum, *ſacrum*
Vatem ; hos videmus nam penicillo tuo
Graphicè, & peritâ, Iface, *depictos manu.*
Poſt fata factos hoſce per te Virbios
O quæ voluptas eſt legere in ſcriptis tuis !
Sic tu libris nos, lineis piſces capis,
Muſſq; litteriſq; dum incumbis, licet
Intentus hamo, interq; piſcandum ſtudes.

ALIUD AD

ISAACUM WALTONUM,

Virum & Piſcatorem optimum.

ISACE, *Macte hâc arte piſcatoriâ ;*
Hâc arte Petrus *principi cenſum dedit ;*
Hâc arte princeps nec Petro *multò prior,*
Tranquillus ille, teſte tranquillo, pater
Patriæ, ſolebat recreare ſe lubens
Auguſtus, *hamo inſtructus ac arundine.*
Tu nunc, Amice, proximum clari es decus
Poſt Cæſarem *hami, gentis ac Halieuticæ :*
Euge O profeſſor artis haud ingloriæ,
Doctor cathedræ, perlegens piſcariam !
Næ tu magiſter, & ego diſcipulus tuus,
Nam candidatum & me ſcrunt arundinis,
Socium hac in arte nobilem nacti ſumus.
Quid amplius, Waltone, *nam dici poteſt ?*
Ipſe hamiota *Dominus en orbis fuit !*

JACO. DUP. D. D.

THE

Plate 1. to Front Page 1.

Pub.d According to Act of Parliam.t 1759.

THE COMPLETE ANGLER:

OR, THE Contemplative Man's Recreation.

****

PART I.

****

CHAP. I.

A Conference betwixt an Angler, *a* Hunter, *and a* Falconer; *each commending his Recreation.*

PISCATOR, VENATOR, AUCEPS.

PISCATOR.

YOU are well overtaken, Gentlemen, a good morning to you both; I have ſtretched my legs up *Tottenham* hill to overtake you, hoping your buſineſs may occaſion you towards *Ware*, whither I am going this fine, freſh, *May* morning.

Venat. Sir, I for my part ſhall almoſt anſwer your hopes; for my purpoſe is to drink my morning's draught at the Thatch'd-houſe in *Hoddeſden* *, and I think not to ſtir till I come thither, where I have appointed a friend or two to meet me: but for this gentleman that you ſee with me, I know not how far he intends his journey; he came ſo lately into my company, that I have ſcarce had time to aſk him the queſtion.

Auceps. Sir, I ſhall by your favour bear you company as far as *Theobalds* †; and there leave you, for then I turn up to a friend's houſe who mews a Hawk for me, which I now long to ſee.

Venat. Sir, we are all ſo happy as to have a fine, freſh, cool morning, and I hope we ſhall each be the happier in the other's company. And gentlemen, that I may not loſe yours, I ſhall either abate, or amend my pace to enjoy it; knowing that, as the *Italians* ſay, Good company in a journey makes the way to ſeem the ſhorter.

Auceps. It may do ſo Sir, with the help of good diſcourſe, which methinks we may promiſe from you that both look and ſpeak ſo chearfully: and for my part I promiſe you, as an invitation to it, that I will be as free and openhearted, as diſcretion will allow me to be with ſtrangers.

* *Hoddeſdon*; ſo it ſtands in *Sylvan's Villare Anglicum*.

† *Theobalds*, in the county of *Hertford*; a houſe built by Lord *Burleigh*, and much improved by his ſon, *Robert* Earl of *Salisbury*; who exchanged it with King *James* the firſt for *Hatfield*. *Camd. Brit. Court and Char. of King James*, 51.

Ven.

Ven. And, Sir, I promiſe the like.

Piſc. I am right glad to hear your anſwers, and in confidence you ſpeak the truth, I ſhall put on a boldneſs to aſk you, Sir, whether buſineſs or pleaſure cauſed you to be ſo early up, and walk ſo faſt, for this other gentleman hath declared he is going to ſee a hawk, that a friend mews for him.

Ven. Sir, mine is a mixture of both, a little buſineſs and more pleaſure, for I intend this day to do all my buſineſs, and then beſtow another day or two in hunting the Otter, which a friend that I go to meet, tells me, is much pleaſanter than any other chaſe whatſoever; howſoever I mean to try it; for to-morrow morning we ſhall meet a pack of Otter-dogs of noble Mr. *Sadler*'s upon *Amwell-hill*, who will be there ſo early, that they intend to prevent the Sun-riſing.

Piſc. Sir, my fortune has anſwered my deſires, and my purpoſe is to beſtow a day or two in helping to deſtroy ſome of thoſe villainous vermin, for I hate them perfectly, becauſe they love fiſh ſo well, or rather, becauſe they deſtroy ſo much; indeed ſo much, that in my judgment all men that keep Otter-Dogs ought to have penſions from the King to encourage them to deſtroy the very breed of theſe baſe Otters, they do ſo much miſchief.

Ven. But what ſay you to the Foxes of the Nation, would not you as willingly have them deſtroyed? for doubtleſs they do as much miſchief as Otters do.

Piſc. Oh Sir, if they do, it is not ſo much to me and my fraternity, as thoſe baſe Vermine the Otters do.

Auc.

Auc. Why, Sir, I pray, of what Fraternity are you, that you are ſo angry with the poor Otters?

Piſc. I am, Sir, a brother of the Angle, and therefore an enemy to the Otter: for you are to note, that we Anglers all love one another, and therefore do I hate the Otter both for my own and for their ſakes who are of my brotherhood.

Ven. And I am a lover of Hounds; I have followed many a pack of dogs many a mile, and heard many merry huntſmen make ſport and ſcoff at Anglers.

Auc. And I profeſs myſelf a Falconer, and have heard many grave, ſerious men pity them, 'tis ſuch a heavy, contemptible, dull recreation.

Piſc. You know Gentlemen, 'tis an eaſie thing to ſcoff at any art or recreation; a little wit mixt with ill nature, confidence and malice, will do it; but though they often venture boldly, yet they are often caught even in their own trap, according to that of *Lucian*, the father of the family of Scoffers.

Lucian *well ſkill'd in ſcoffing, this hath writ,*
Friend, that's your folly which you think your wit:
This you vent oft, void both of wit and fear,
Meaning another, when yourſelf you jeer.

If to this you add what *Solomon* ſays of Scoffers, that they are an abomination to mankind, let him that thinks fit ſcoff on, and be a Scoffer ſtill; but I account them enemies to me, and to all that love virtue and Angling.

And for you that have heard many grave ſerious men pity Anglers; let me tell you, Sir, there

there be many men that are by others taken to be ſerious and grave men, which we contemn and pity. Men that are taken to be grave, becauſe nature hath made them of a ſour complexion, money-getting men, men that ſpend all their time firſt in getting, and next in anxious care to keep it; men that are condemned to be rich, and then always buſy or diſcontented: for theſe poor-rich-men, we Anglers pity them perfectly, and ſtand in no need to borrow their thoughts to think ourſelves ſo happy. No, no, Sir, we enjoy a contentedneſs above the reach of ſuch diſpoſitions, and as the learned and ingenuous * *Montaigne* ſays like himſelf freely, "When my Cat and I entertain each other "with mutual apiſh tricks, as playing with a "garter, who knows but that I make my Cat "more ſport than ſhe makes me? ſhall I con-"clude her to be ſimple, that has her time to "begin or refuſe to play as freely as I myſelf "have? Nay, who knows but that it is a defect "of my not underſtanding her language (for "doubtleſs Cats talk and reaſon with one ano-"ther) that we agree no better: and who knows "but that ſhe pities me for being no wiſer, "than to play with her, and laughs and cenſures "my folly for making ſport for her when we "two play together?"

Thus freely ſpeaks *Montaigne* concerning Cats, and I hope I may take as great a liberty to blame any man, and laugh at him too let him be never ſo grave, that hath not heard what Anglers can ſay in the juſtification of their Art and Recrea-

* In Apol. for *Raim. de Sebonde*:

tion;

tion; which I may again tell you is so full of pleasure, that we need not borrow their thoughts to think ourselves happy.

Ven. Sir, you have almost amazed me, for though I am no Scoffer, yet I have, I pray let me speak it without offence, always looked upon Anglers as more patient and more simple men, than I fear I shall find you to be.

Pisc. Sir, I hope you will not judge my earnestness to be impatience: and for my simplicity, if by that you mean a harmlessness, or that simplicity which was usually found in the primitive Christians, who were, as most Anglers are, quiet men, and followers of peace; men that were so simply-wise, as not to sell their Consciences to buy riches, and with them vexation and a fear to die; if you mean such simple men as lived in those times when there were fewer Lawyers; when men might have had a Lordship safely conveyed to them in a piece of parchment no bigger than your hand, though several sheets will not do it safely in this wiser age, I say, Sir, if you take us Anglers to be such simple men as I have spoke of, then myself and those of my profession will be glad to be so understood: But if by simplicity you meant to express a general defect in those that profess and practise the excellent Art of Angling, I hope in time to disabuse you, and make the contrary appear so evidently, that if you will but have patience to hear me, I shall remove all the anticipations that discourse, or time, or prejudice have possess'd you with against that laudable and ancient Art; for I know it is worthy the knowledge and practise of a wise man.

But

But, Gentlemen, though I be able to do this, I am not so unmannerly as to ingross all the discourse to myself; and therefore, you two having declared yourselves, the one to be a lover of Hawks, the other of Hounds, I shall be most glad to hear what you can say in the commendation of that recreation which each of you love and practise; and having heard what you can say, I shall be glad to exercise your attention with what I can say concerning my own recreation and art of Angling, and by this means, we shall make the way to seem the shorter: and if you like my motion, I would have Mr. *Falconer* to begin.

Auc. Your motion is consented to with all my heart, and to testify it, I will begin as you have desired me.

And first, for the Element that I use to trade in, which is the Air, an Element of more worth than weight, an Element that doubtless exceeds both the Earth and Water; for though I sometimes deal in both, yet the Air is most properly mine, I and my Hawks use that, and it yields us most recreation; it stops not the high soaring of my noble generous Falcon; in it she ascends to such an height, as the dull eyes of beasts and fish are not able to reach to; their bodies are too gross for such high elevations: in the Air my troops of Hawks soar upon high, and when they are lost in the sight of men, then they attend upon and converse with the gods; therefore I think my Eagle is so justly stiled, *Jove*'s servant in ordinary: and that very Falcon, that I am now going to see deserves no meaner a title, for she usually in her flight endangers

endangers herſelf, like the ſon of *Dædalus*, to have her wings ſcorch'd by the Suns heat, ſhe flies ſo near it, but her mettle makes her careleſs of danger; for ſhe then heeds nothing, but makes her nimble Pinions cut the fluid air, and ſo makes her highway over the ſteepeſt mountains and deepeſt rivers, and in her glorious career looks with contempt upon thoſe high Steeples and magnificent Palaces which we adore and wonder at; from which height I can make her to deſcend by a word from my mouth (which ſhe both knows and obeys) to accept of meat from my hand, to own me for her Maſter, to go home with me, and be willing the next day to afford me the like recreation.

And more; this element of air which I profeſs to trade in, the worth of it is ſuch, and it is of ſuch neceſſity, that no creature whatſoever, not only thoſe numerous creatures that feed on the face of the earth, but thoſe various creatures that have their dwelling within the waters, every creature that hath life in its noſtrils ſtands in need of my element. The waters cannot preſerve the Fiſh without air, witneſs the not breaking of ice in an extream froſt; the reaſon is, for that if the inſpiring and expiring organ of any animal be ſtopt, it ſuddenly yields to nature, and dies. Thus neceſſary is air to the exiſtence both of Fiſh and Beaſts, nay, even to Man himſelf; that air or breath of life with which God at firſt inſpired mankind, he, if he wants it, dies preſently, becomes a ſad object to all that loved and beheld him, and in an inſtant turns to putrefaction.

Nay more, the very birds of the air, thoſe that be not Hawks, are both ſo many and ſo uſeful

uſeful and pleaſant to mankind, that I muſt not let them paſs without ſome obſervations: they both feed and refreſh him; feed him with their choice bodies, and refreſh him with their heavenly voices. I will not undertake to mention the ſeveral kinds of Fowl by which this is done; and his curious palate pleaſed by day, and which with their very excrements afford him a ſoft lodging at night. Theſe I will paſs by, but not thoſe little nimble Muſicians of the air, that warble forth their curious Ditties, with which nature hath furniſhed them to the ſhame of art.

As firſt the Lark, when ſhe means to rejoice; to chear herſelf and thoſe that hear her, ſhe then quits the earth, and ſings as ſhe aſcends higher into the air, and having ended her heavenly imployment, grows then mute and ſad to think ſhe muſt deſcend to the dull earth, which ſhe would not touch but for neceſſity.

How do the Black-bird and Thraſſel with their melodious voices bid welcome to the chearful Spring, and in their fixed Months warble forth ſuch ditties as no art or inſtrument can reach to?

Nay, the ſmaller birds alſo do the like in their particular ſeaſons, as namely the Leverock, the Tit-lark, the little Linnet, and the honeſt Robin, that loves mankind both alive and dead.

But the Nightingale, another of my airy creatures, breaths ſuch ſweet loud muſick out of her little inſtrumental throat, that it might make mankind to think miracles are not ceaſed. He that at midnight, when the very labourer ſleeps ſecurely, ſhould hear, as I have very often, the clear airs, the ſweet deſcants, the natural riſing and

and falling, the doubling and redoubling of her voice, might well be lifted above earth, and ſay; Lord, what muſick haſt thou provided for the ſaints in heaven, when thou affordeſt bad men ſuch muſick on Earth!

And this makes me the leſs to wonder at the many Aviaries in Italy, or at the great charge of *Varro* his Aviarie, the ruins of which are yet to be ſeen in Rome, and is ſtill ſo famous there, that it is reckoned for one of thoſe notables which men of foreign nations either record, or lay up in their memories when they return from travel.

This for the birds of pleaſure, of which very much more might be ſaid. My next ſhall be of birds of political uſe; I think 'tis not to be doubted that ſwallows have been taught to carry letters between two armies. But 'tis certain that when the Turks beſieged *Malta* or *Rhodes* I now remember not which 'twas, Pigeons are then related to carry and recarry letters. And Mr. *G. Sandys* *, in his travels, relates it to be done betwixt *Aleppo* and *Babylon*. But if that be diſbelieved, 'tis not to be doubted that the Dove was ſent out of the ark by *Noah*, to give him notice of land, when to him all appeared to be ſea, and the Dove proved a faithful and comfortable meſſenger. And for the ſacrifices of the

* Mr. *George Sandys*, a very learned and accompliſh'd gentleman, was the youngeſt ſon of Dr. *Edwin Sandys*, Archbiſhop of *York*. He publiſh'd his Travels to the *Holy Land*, *Egypt*, and elſewhere, in Fo. 1670. and made an excellent paraphraſe on the *Pſalms*, *Canticles*, and *Eccleſiaſtes*, in verſe; and alſo tranſlated *Ovid*'s *Metamorphoſes*. He died in 1642; and was one of the beſt verſifiers of that age.

law,

law, a pair of Turtle Doves or young Pigeons, were as well accepted as coſtly Bulls and Rams. And when God would feed the Prophet *Elijah*, 1 *Kings* 17. after a kind of miraculous manner, he did it by Ravens, who brought him meat morning and evening. Laſtly, the Holy Ghoſt, when he deſcended viſibly upon our Saviour, did it by aſſuming the ſhape of a Dove. And, to conclude this part of my diſcourſe, pray remember theſe wonders were done by birds of the air, the element in which they and I take ſo much pleaſure.

There is alſo a little contemptible winged Creature, an inhabitant of my aerial element, namely the laborious Bee, of whoſe Prudence, Policy, and regular government of their own commonwealth, I might ſay much, as alſo of their ſeveral kinds, and how uſeful their honey and wax is both for meat and medicines to mankind *; but I will leave them to their ſweet labour, without the leaſt diſturbance, believing them to be all very buſy at this very time amongſt the herbs and flowers that we ſee nature puts forth this *May* morning.

And now to return to my Hawks, from whom I have made too long a digreſſion; you are to note, that they are uſually diſtinguiſhed into two kinds; namely, the long-winged and the ſhort-winged Hawk: of the firſt kind, there be chiefly in uſe amongſt us in this nation,

The Gerfalcon and Jerkin.
The Falcon and Taſſel-gentel.

* See the Feminine Monarchy; or, Hiſtory of Bees, by *Charles Butler*, 4to. 1634.

The Laner and Laneret.
The Bockerel and Bockeret.
The Saker and Sacaret,
The Merlin and Jack Merlin.
The Hobby and Jack.
There is the Stelletto of *Spain*.
The Blood-red Rook from *Turky*.
The Waſkite from *Virginia*.
And there is of ſhort-winged Hawks.
The Eagle and Iron.
The Goſhawk and Tarcel.
The Sparhawk and Muſket.
The *French* Pye of two ſorts.

Theſe are reckoned Hawks of note and worth, but we have alſo of an inferior rank,

The Stanyel, the Ringtail,
The Raven, the Buzzard,
The forked Kite, the Bald Buzzard.
The Hen-driver, and others that I forbear to name *.

Gentlemen, if I ſhould enlarge my diſcourſe to the obſervation of the Eires, the Brancher, the Ramiſh Hawk, the Haggard, and the two ſorts of Lentners, and then treat of their ſeveral Ayries, their Mewings, rare order of caſting, and the renovation of their feathers; their reclaiming, dyeting, and then come to their rare ſtories of practice; I ſay, if I ſhould enter into theſe, and many other obſervations that I could make, it would be much, very much pleaſure to me: but leſt I ſhould break the rules of Civility with you, by taking up more than the pro-

* See *Turberville*, *Latham*, and *Markham*, on Falconry.

portion

portion of time allotted to me, I will here break off, and entreat you, Mr. *Venator*, to ſay what you are able in the commendation of Hunting, to which you are ſo much affected, and if time will ſerve, I will beg your favour for a further enlargement of ſome of thoſe ſeveral heads of which I have ſpoken. But no more at preſent.

Venat. Well, Sir, and I will now take my turn, and will firſt begin with a commendation of the Earth, as you have done moſt excellently of the Air; the Earth being that Element upon which I drive my pleaſant, wholſom, hungry trade. The Earth is a ſolid, ſettled Element; an Element moſt univerſally beneficial both to man and beaſt: to men who have their ſeveral Recreations upon it, as Horſe-races, Hunting, ſweet ſmells, pleaſant walks: The Earth feeds man, and all thoſe ſeveral beaſts that both feed him, and afford him recreation: What pleaſure doth man take in hunting the Stately ſtag, the generous Buck, the Wild Boar, the cunning Otter, the crafty Fox, and the fearful Hare? And if I may deſcend to a lower Game? what pleaſure is it ſometimes with Gins to betray the very vermine of the earth? as namely, the Fichat, the Fulimart, the Ferret, the Pole-cat, the Mouldwarp, and the like creatures that live upon the face, and within the bowels of the earth. How doth the earth bring forth herbs, flowers and fruits, both for phyſick and the pleaſure of mankind? and above all, to me at leaſt, the fruitful Vine, of which, when I drink moderately, it clears my brain, chears my heart, and ſharpens my wit. How could *Cleopatra* have feaſted *Mark Antony* with eight Wild Boars roaſted whole at one ſup-

per, and other meat ſuitable, if the earth had not been a bountiful mother? But to paſs by the mighty Elephant, which the earth breeds and nouriſheth, and deſcend to the leaſt of creatures, how doth the earth afford us a doctrinal example in the little Piſmire, who in the ſummer provides and lays up her winter proviſion, and teaches man to do the like *? the earth feeds and carries thoſe horſes that carry us. If I would be prodigal of my time and your patience, what might not I ſay in commendations of the earth? that puts limits to the proud and raging Sea, and by that means preſerves both man and beaſt that it deſtroys them not, as we ſee it daily doth thoſe that venture upon the ſea, and are there ſhipwracked, drowned, and left to feed Haddocks; when we that are ſo wiſe as to keep our ſelves on earth, walk and talk and live, and eat, and drink, and go a hunting: of which recreation I will ſay a little, and then leave Mr. *Piſcator* to the commendation of Angling.

Hunting is a game for Princes and noble perſons; it hath been highly prized in all ages; it was one of the qualifications that *Xenophon* beſtowed on his *Cyrus*, that he was a hunter of wild beaſts. Hunting trains up the younger nobility to the uſe of manly exerciſes in their riper age. What more manly exerciſe than hunting the Wild Boar, the Stag, the Buck, the Fox or the Hare? how doth it preſerve health, and increaſe ſtrength and activity?

And for the dogs that we uſe, who can com-

* See a very curious and entertaining account of the induſtry and ſagacity of this little animal in the *Guardian*, No. 156.

mend

mend their excellency to that height which they deſerve? how perfect is the hound at ſmelling, who never leaves or forſakes his firſt ſcent, but follows it through ſo many changes and varieties of other ſcents, even over, and in the water, and into the earth? What muſick doth a pack of dogs then make to any man, whoſe heart and ears are ſo happy as to be ſet to the tune of ſuch inſtruments? How will a right Greyhound fix his eye on the beſt Buck in a herd, ſingle him out, and follow him, and him only through a whole herd of raſcal game, and ſtill know and then kill him? For my Hounds I know the language of them, and they know the language and meaning of one another, as perfectly as we know the voices of thoſe with whom we diſcourſe daily.

I might enlarge my ſelf in the commendation of Hunting, and of the noble Hound eſpecially, as alſo of the docibleneſs of dogs in general; and I might make many obſervations of Land-creatures, that for compoſition, order, figure and conſtitution, approach neareſt to the compleatneſs and underſtanding of man; eſpecially of thoſe creatures which *Moſes* in the law permitted to the Jews, which have cloven hoofs and chew the cud, which I ſhall forbear to name, becauſe I will not be ſo uncivil to Mr. *Piſcator*, as not to allow him a time for the commendation of Angling, which he calls an Art; but doubtleſs 'tis an eaſy one: and Mr. *Auceps*, I doubt we ſhall hear a watry diſcourſe of it, but I hope 'twill not be a long one.

Auc. And I hope ſo too, tho' I fear it will.

Piſ. Gentlemen; let not prejudice prepoſſeſs you. I confeſs my diſcourſe is like to prove

ſuitable to my recreation, calm and quiet; we ſeldom take the name of God into our mouths, but it is either to praiſe him or pray to him; if others uſe it vainly in the midſt of their recreations, ſo vainly as if they intend to conjure; I muſt tell you, it is neither our fault or our cuſtom; we proteſt againſt it. But, pray remember I accuſe no-body; for as I would not make a watery diſcourſe, ſo I would not put too much vinegar into it; nor would I raiſe the reputation of my own art by the diminution or ruine of another's. And ſo much for the Prologue to what I mean to ſay.

And now for the Water, the element that I trade in. The water is the eldeſt daughter of the creation, the element upon which the Spirit of God did firſt move, the element which God commanded to bring forth living creatures abundantly; and without which, thoſe that inhabit the land, even all creatures that have breath in their noſtrils, muſt ſuddenly return to putrefaction. *Moſes*, the great law-giver and chief philoſopher, ſkilled in all the learning of the *Egyptians*, who was called the friend of God, and knew the mind of the Almighty, names this element the firſt in the creation; this is the element upon which the Spirit of God did firſt move, and is the chief ingredient in the creation: many Philoſophers have made it to comprehend all the other elements, and moſt allow it the chiefeſt in the mixtion of all living creatures.

There be that profeſs to believe that all bodies are made of water, and may be reduced back again to water only: they endeavour to demonſtrate it thus;

Take

Take a Willow, or any like ſpeedy growing plant, newly rooted in a box or barrel full of earth, weigh them all together exactly when the trees begin to grow, and then weigh all together after the tree is increaſed from its firſt rooting to weigh an hundred pound weight more than when it was firſt rooted and weighed; and you ſhall find this augment of the tree to be without the diminution of one dram weight of the earth. Hence they infer this increaſe of wood to be from water of rain, or from dew, and not to be from any other element. And they affirm, they can reduce this wood back again to water; and they affirm alſo the ſame may be done in any animal or vegetable. And this I take to be a fair teſtimony of the excellency of my element of water.

The water is more productive than the earth. Nay, the earth hath no fruitfulneſs without ſhowers or dews; for all the herbs, and flowers, and fruit are produced and thrive by the water; and the very minerals are fed by ſtreams that run under ground, whoſe natural courſe carries them to the tops of many high mountains, as we ſee by ſeveral ſprings breaking forth on the tops of the higheſt hills; and this is alſo witneſſed by the daily trial and teſtimony of ſeveral miners.

Nay, the increaſe of thoſe creatures that are bred and fed in the water, are not only more and more miraculous, but more advantageous to man, not only for the lengthening of his life, but for the preventing of ſickneſs; for 'tis obſerved by the moſt learned phyſicians, that the caſting off of lent and other fiſh-days, which hath not only given the lie to ſo many learned, pious,

wiſe founders of colleges, for which we ſhould be aſhamed, has doubtleſs been the chief cauſe of thoſe many putrid, ſhaking, intermitting agues, unto which this nation of ours is now more ſubject than thoſe wiſer countries that feed on herbs, ſallets, and plenty of fiſh; of which it is obſerved in ſtory, that the greateſt part of the world now do. And it may be fit to remember that *Moſes*, *Lev.* xi. 9. *Deut.* xiv. 9. appointed fiſh to be the chief diet for the beſt commonwealth that ever yet was.

And it is obſervable, not only that there are fiſh, as namely the whale, three times as big as the mighty elephant; that is ſo fierce in battel; but that the mightieſt feaſts have been of fiſh. the *Romans* in the height of their glory have made fiſh the miſtreſs of all their entertainments; they have had muſick to uſher in their ſturgeons, lampreys, and mullets, which they would purchaſe at rates rather to be wondered at than believed. He that ſhall view the writings of *Macrobius* *, or *Varro* †, may be confirmed and informed of this, and of the incredible value of their fiſh and fiſh-ponds.

But, Gentlemen, I have almoſt loſt myſelf, which I confeſs I may eaſily do in this philoſophical diſcourſe; I met with moſt of it very lately,

* *Aurelius Macrobius*, a learned writer of the fourth century; he was chamberlain to the Emperor *Theodoſius*: he wrote *Saturnalia*, a learned work on antiquities; and many other books, which are now loſt.

† *Marcus Terentius Varro*, a moſt learned *Roman*, cotemporary with *Cicero*, and author, as it is ſaid, of near five hundred volumes. He is one of the beſt writers on agriculture.

and,

and, I hope, happily, in a conference with a moſt learned phyſician, Dr. *Wharton* *, a dear friend; that loves both me and my art of Angling. But however, I will wade no deeper in theſe myſterious arguments, but paſs to ſuch obſervations as I can manage with more pleaſure, and leſs fear of running into error. But I muſt not yet forſake the waters, by whoſe help we have ſo many known advantages.

And firſt, to paſs by the miraculous cures of our known baths, how advantageous is the ſea for our daily traffick; without which we could not now ſubſiſt? How does it not only furniſh us with food and phyſick for the bodies, but with ſuch obſervations for the mind as ingenious perſons would not want?

How ignorant had we been of the beauty of *Florence*, of the monuments, urns, and rarities that yet remain in, and near unto old and new *Rome*, ſo many as it is ſaid will take up a years time to view, and afford to each of them but a convenient conſideration; and therefore it is not to be wondered at, that ſo learned and devout a father as St. *Jerome*, after his wiſh to have ſeen Chriſt in the *fleſh*, and to have heard St. *Paul* preach, makes his third wiſh, to *have ſeen Rome in her glory*; and that glory is not yet all loſt, for what pleaſure is it to ſee the monuments of *Livy*, the choiceſt of the hiſtorians: of *Tully*, the beſt of orators; and to ſee the bay-trees that now grow out of the very tomb of *Virgil?*

* Dr. *Thomas Wharton*, an eminent phyſician, and excellent anatomiſt, and *Greſham* profeſſor of phyſick. He lived in *Alderſgate-Street*, *London*, and died 1673. *Athen. Oxon.* 522.

Theſe,

Theſe, to any that love learning, muſt be pleaſing. But what pleaſure is it to a devout Chriſtian to ſee there the humble houſe in which St. *Paul* was content to dwell; and to view the many rich ſtatues that are there made in honour of his memory? nay, to ſee the very place in which St. *Peter** and he lie buried together? Theſe are in and near to *Rome*. And how much more doth it pleaſe the pious curioſity of a Chriſtian to ſee that place on which the bleſſed Saviour of the world was pleaſed to humble himſelf, and to take our nature upon him, and to converſe with men: to ſee mount *Sion*, *Jeruſalem*, and the very ſepulchre of our Lord *Jeſus*? How may it beget and heighten the zeal of a Chriſtian, to ſee the devotions that are daily paid to him at that place? Gentlemen, leſt I forget myſelf I will ſtop here, and remember you, that but for my element of water the inhabitants of this poor Iſland muſt remain ignorant that ſuch things ever were, or that any of them have yet a being.

Gentlemen, I might both enlarge and loſe myſelf in ſuch like arguments; I might tell you that Almighty God is ſaid to have ſpoken to a Fiſh, but never to a Beaſt; that he hath made a Whale a Ship to carry and ſet his Prophet *Jonah* ſafe on the appointed ſhore. Of theſe I might ſpeak, but I muſt in manners break off, for I ſee *Theobalds* houſe. I cry you mercy for being ſo long, and thank you for your patience.

* The Proteſtants deny not only that St. *Peter* lies buried in the *Vatican*, as the *Romiſh* writers aſſert; but that he ever was at *Rome*. See the *Hiſtoria Apoſtolica* of *Lud. Capelius*.

Auceps.

Auceps. Sir, my pardon is eaſily granted you: I except againſt nothing that you have ſaid; nevertheleſs, I muſt part with you at this park-wall, for which I am very ſorry; but I aſſure you, Mr. *Piſcator*, I now part with you full of good thoughts, not only of yourſelf, but your Recreation. And ſo Gentlemen, God keep you both.

Piſc. Well, now Mr. *Venator* you ſhall neither want time nor my attention to hear you enlarge your Diſcourſe concerning Hunting.

Venat. Not I Sir, I remember you ſaid that Angling itſelf was of great antiquity, and a perfect art, and an art not eaſily attained to; and you have ſo won upon me in your former diſcourſe, that I am very deſirous to hear what you can ſay further concerning thoſe particulars.

Piſc. Sir, I did ſay ſo, and I doubt not but if you and I did converſe together but a few hours, to leave you poſſeſt with the ſame high and happy thoughts that now poſſeſs me of it; not only of the antiquity of Angling, but that it deſerves commendations, and that it is an art, and an art worthy the knowledge and practiſe of a wiſe man.

Venat. Pray, Sir, ſpeak of them what you think fit, for we have yet five miles to the Thatcht-houſe, during which walk, I dare promiſe you my patience, and diligent attention ſhall not be wanting. And if you ſhall make that to appear which you have undertaken; firſt, that it is an art, and an art worth the learning, I ſhall beg that I may attend you a day or two a fiſhing, and that I may become your Scholar, and be inſtructed in the art itſelf which you ſo much magnify.

Piſc.

Pisc. O, Sir, doubt not but that Angling is an art; is it not an art to deceive a Trout with an artificial Flie? a Trout! that is more ſharp ſighted than any Hawk you have nam'd, and more watchful and timorous than your high mettled Merlin is bold? and yet, I doubt not to catch a brace or two to-morrow, for a friend's breakfaſt: doubt not therefore, Sir, but that Angling is an art, and an art worth your learning: the Queſtion is rather, whether you be capable of learning it? for Angling is ſomewhat like poetry, men are to be born ſo: I mean, with inclinations to it, though both may be heightened by diſcourſe and practice; but he that hopes to be a good Angler, muſt not only bring an inquiring, ſearching, obſerving wit; but he muſt bring a large meaſure of hope and patience, and a love and propenſity to the art itſelf*; but having

* *Markham*, in his *Country Contentments*, has a whole chapter on the ſubject of *the Angler's apparel, and inward qualities*; ſome of which are, "That he be a general ſcholar, and "ſeen in all the liberal ſciences; as a *grammarian*, to know "how to write, or diſcourſe, of his art in true and fitting "terms. He ſhould have *fluentneſs of ſpeech*, to entice others "to delight in an exerciſe ſo much laudable. He ſhould have "*ſtrength of argument* to defend and maintain his profeſſion, "againſt envy and ſlander." Thou ſeeſt, reader, how eaſily the author has diſpatch'd *Grammar*, *Rhetorick*, and *Logick*, three of the liberal ſciences; and his reaſons are not a whit leſs convincing, with reſpect to the other four.

A man would think now, that with proper baits, good tackle in his pannier, and ſo much ſcience in his head, our Angler would ſtand a pretty good chance to catch fiſh: but, alas! thoſe are little to the purpoſe, without the Chriſtian virtues of *faith*, *hope*, and *charity*; and unleſs the *cardinal virtues* can be perſuaded to go a fiſhing, the Angler may as well ſtay at home: for hear what Mr. *Markham* ſays about *fortitude*:

having once got and practiſed it, then doubt not but Angling will prove to be ſo pleaſant, that it will prove to be like virtue, a reward to itſelf.

Venat. Sir, I am now become ſo full of expectation, that I long much to have you proceed; and in the order that you propoſe.

Piſc. Then firſt, for the antiquity of Angling, of which I ſhall not ſay much, but only this; ſome ſay it is as ancient as *Deucalion*'s flood: others, that *Belus*, who was the firſt inventer of godly and virtuous recreations, was the firſt inventer of Angling: and ſome others ſay, for former times have had their diſquiſitions about the antiquity of it, that *Seth*, one of the ſons of *Adam*, taught it to his ſons, and that by them it was derived to poſterity: others ſay, that he left it engraven on thoſe pillars which he erected, and truſted to preſerve the knowlege of the mathematicks, muſick, and the reſt of that precious knowledge, and thoſe uſeful arts which by God's appointment or allowance and his noble induſtry, were thereby preſerv'd from periſhing in *Noah*'s flood.

Theſe, Sir, have been the opinions of ſeveral men, that have poſſibly endeavoured to make

fortitude: "Then muſt he be *ſtrong* and *valiant*; neither "to be amazed with ſtorms, nor affrighted with thunder: "and if he is not *temperate*, but has a gnawing ſtomach, "that will not endure much faſting, but muſt obſerve "hours; it troubleth the mind and body, and loſeth that "delight which maketh the paſtime only pleaſing."

There is no doubt but *Walton* had this chapter of *Markham* in his eye; and as there is a humorous ſolemnity in thus attempting to dignify an art, which ſurely borrows as litttle of its perfection from *learning* as any that is practiſed, it was thought it might divert the Reader to quote it.

Angling

Angling more ancient than is needful, or may well be warranted; but for my part, I ſhall content myſelf in telling you, that Angling is much more ancient than the incarnatian of our Saviour; for in the Prophet *Amos* mention is made of fiſh-hooks; and in the Book of *Job*, which was long before the days of *Amos*, for that book is ſaid to be writ by *Moſes*, mention is made alſo of fiſh-hooks, which muſt imply Anglers in thoſe times.

But, my worthy friend, as I would rather prove myſelf a gentleman by being learned and humble, valiant and inoffenſive, virtuous and communicable, than by any fond oſtentation of riches, or wanting thoſe virtues myſelf, boaſt that theſe were in my anceſtors, and yet I grant that where a noble and ancient deſcent and ſuch merits meet in any man, it is a double dignification of that perſon: ſo if this antiquity of Angling, which for my part I have not forced, ſhall, like an ancient family, be either an honour or an ornament to this virtuous art which I profeſs to love and practice, I ſhall be the gladder that I made an accidental mention of the antiquity of it; of which I ſhall ſay no more, but proceed to that juſt commendation which I think it deſerves.

And for that I ſhall tell you, that in ancient times a debate hath riſen, and it remains yet unreſolved, whether the happineſs of man in this world doth conſiſt more in contemplation or action? *

Con-

* This is a queſtion which many perſons of wit, eſpecially among the *Italian* writers, have diſcuſs'd; a diſquiſition, in the

Concerning which ſome have endeavoured to maintain their opinion of the firſt, by ſaying, that the nearer we mortals come to God by way of imitation, the more happy we are. And they ſay, that God enjoys himſelf only by a contemplation of his own infiniteneſs, eternity, power and goodneſs, and the like. And upon this ground many cloyſteral men of great learning and devotion prefer contemplation before action. And many of the fathers ſeem to approve this opinion, as may appear in their Commentaries upon the words of our Saviour to *Martha*, *Luke* x. 41, 42.

And on the contrary, there want not men of equal authority and credit, that prefer action to be the more excellent, as namely experiments in phyſick, and the application of it, both for the eaſe and prolongation of man's life; by which each man is enabled to act and do good to others; either to ſerve his country, or do good to particular perſons; and they ſay alſo, that action is doctrinal, and teaches both art and virtue, and is a maintainer of humane ſociety; and for theſe, and other like reaſons to be preferred before contemplation.

Concerning which two opinions I ſhall forbear to add a third by declaring my own, and reſt myſelf contented in telling you, my very worthy friend, that both theſe meet together, and do moſt properly belong to the moſt honeſt, ingenuous, quiet, and harmleſs art of Angling.

the judgment of Lord *Clarendon*, about as profitable, as whether a long journey is beſt undertaken on a *black* or a *bay* horſe. *See Lord* Clarendon's *Tracts*, Page 167.

And

And firſt, I ſhall tell you what ſome have obſerved, and I have found it to be a real truth, that the very ſitting by the river's ſide is not only the quieteſt and fitteſt place for contemplation, but will invite an Angler to it: and this ſeems to be maintained by the learned *Pet. du Moulin*, * who in his diſcourſe of the fulfilling of propheſies, obſerves, that when God intended to reveal any future events or high notions to his prophets, he then carried them either to the deſarts or the ſea-ſhore, that having ſo ſeparated them from amidſt the preſs of people and buſineſs, and the cares of the world, he might ſettle their mind in a quiet repoſe, and there make them fit for revelation.

And this ſeems alſo to be intimated by the Children of *Iſrael Pſal.* 137, who having in a ſad condition baniſhed all mirth and muſick from their penſive hearts, and having hung up their then mute harps upon the willow-trees growing by the rivers of *Babylon*, ſat down upon thoſe banks bemoaning the ruins of *Sion*, and contemplating their own ſad condition.

And an ingenuous *Spaniard* † ſays, that "rivers and the inhabitants of the watry element "were made for wiſe men to contemplate, and "fools to paſs by without conſideration." And though I will not rank myſelf in the number of the firſt, yet give me leave to free myſelf from the laſt, by offering to you a ſhort contemplation, firſt of rivers, and then of fiſh; concerning which I doubt not but to give you many

* Dr. *Peter du Moulin*, Prebendary of *Canterbury*, and author of ſeveral pieces in the *Romiſh* controverſy.

† *Valdeſſo.*

obſervations

obſervations that will appear very conſiderable: I am ſure they have appeared ſo to me, and made many an hour paſs away more pleaſantly, as I have ſate quietly on a flowry bank by a calm river, and contemplated what I ſhall now relate to you.

And firſt concerning rivers; there be ſo many wonders reported and written of them, and of the ſeveral creatures that be bred and live in them; and, thoſe by Authors of ſo good credit, that we need not to deny them an hiſtorical faith.

As namely of a river in *Epirus*, that puts out any lighted torch, and kindles any torch that was not lighted. Some waters being drank cauſe madneſs, ſome drunkenneſs, and ſome laughter to death. The river *Selarus* in a few hours turns a rod or wand to ſtone: and our *Camden* mentions the like in *England*, and the like in *Lochmere* in *Ireland*. There is alſo a river in *Arabia*, of which all the ſheep that drink thereof have their wool turned into a vermilion colour. And one of no leſs credit than *Ariſtotle*, tells us of a merry river, the river *Eluſina*, that dances at the noiſe of muſick, for with muſick it bubbles, dances and grows ſandy, and ſo continues till the muſick ceaſes, but then it preſently returns to its wonted calmneſs and clearneſs. And *Camden* tells us of a well near to *Kirby* in *Weſtmoreland*, that ebbs and flows ſeveral times every day: and he tells us of a river in *Surrey*, it is called *Mole*, that after it has run ſeveral miles, being oppoſed by hills, finds or makes itſelf a way under ground, and breaks out again ſo far off, that the inhabi-

tants thereabout boaſt, as the *Spaniards* do of their river *Anus*, that they feed divers flocks of ſheep upon a bridge. And laſtly, for I would not tire your patience, one of no leſs authority than *Joſephus*, that learned jew, tells us of a river in *Judea*, than runs ſwiftly all the ſix days of the week, and ſtands ſtill and reſts all their ſabbath.

But I will lay aſide my diſcourſe of rivers, and tell you ſome things of the monſters, or fiſh, call them what you will, that they breed and feed in them. *Pliny* the philoſopher ſays, in the third chapter of his ninth book, that in the *Indian* Sea, the fiſh call'd the *Balæna* or Whirle-pool is ſo long and broad, as to take up more in length and bredth than two acres of ground, and of other fiſh of two hundred cubits long; and that in the river *Ganges*, there be Eels of thirty foot long. He ſays there, that theſe monſters appear in that Sea only, when the tempeſtuous winds oppoſe the torrents of waters falling from the rocks into it, and ſo turning what lay at the bottom to be ſeen on the waters top. And he he ſays, that the people of *Cadara*, an Iſland near this place, make the timber for their houſes of thoſe fiſh-bones. He there tells us, that there are ſometimes a thouſand of theſe great Eels found wrapt, or interwoven together. He tells us there, that it appears that Dolphins love muſick, and will come, when call'd for, by ſome men or boys, that know and uſe to feed them, and that they can ſwim as ſwift as an arrow can be ſhot out of a bow, and much of this is ſpoken concerning the Dolphin, and other fiſh, as may be found

found also in learned Dr. *Casaubon*'s * discourse of credulity and incredulity, printed by him about the year 1670.

I know, we Islanders are averse to the belief of these wonders; but, there be so many strange creatures to be now seen, many collected by *John Tradescant*, and others added by my friend *Elias Ashmole*, Esq; who now keeps them carefully and methodically at his house near to *Lambeth* near *London* †, as may get some belief of

* Dr. *Meric Casaubon*, the son of the famous *Isaac Casaubon*; he was a Prebendary of *Canterbury*, and died 1671. See his life in the *Biograph. Britan.*

† Mr. *John Tradescant* was a great collector of rarities, and lived at *South Lambeth*, in *Surrey*: there is extant a Catalogue of his collection, entituled, *Musæum Tradescantianum*, in small *Octavo*, 1656. Mr. *Ashmole*, and his wife, boarded at his house for a summer; and *Tradescant*, and his wife, after long consideration upon whom they should bestow the collection abovementioned, joined in a deed of gift thereof to Mr. *Ashmole*. What kind of rarities they were, few who have been at *Oxford* are ignorant; it seems they were of such a sort as made it necessary that a *Feme-Covert*, the wife of the proprietor, should join in a conveyance of them; in which respect, it must be owned, they are *great rarities!* since they are, by that circumstance alone, distinguished from every other species of personal property in this kingdom. However, the woman seems to have repented of her generosity: for, after the death of her husband, Mr *Ashmole* applied to the Court of Chancery, and procured a decree for the delivery of them. Soon after the obtaining whereof, Mrs. *Tradescant* was found drowned in her pond. This collection, with what additions he afterwards made to it, Mr. *Ashmole* gave to the University of *Oxford*; and so became the founder of the *Ashmolean* Museum. *Ashmole* was at first a Solicitor in Chancery; but marrying a lady with a large fortune, he addicted himself to the then fashionable studies of Chemistry and judicial Astrology: he was besides a laborious and learned Antiquary, and a very skilful Herald. But the soundness of his understanding is

of ſome of the other wonders I mentioned. I will tell you ſome of the wonders that you may now ſee, and not till then believe, unleſs you think fit.

You may there ſee the Hog-fiſh, the Dog-fiſh, the Dolphin, the Coney-fiſh, the Parrot-fiſh, the Shark, the Poiſon-fiſh, Sword-fiſh, and not only other incredible fiſh; but you may there ſee the Salamander, ſeveral ſorts of Barnacles, of Solan Geeſe, the Bird of Paradiſe, ſuch ſorts of Snakes, and ſuch Bird's-neſts, and of ſo various forms, and ſo wonderfully made, as may beget wonder and amuſement in any beholder: and ſo, many hundred of other rarities in that collection, as will make the other wonders I ſpake of, the leſs incredible; for, you may note, that the waters are nature's ſtore-houſe, in which ſhe locks up her wonders.

But, Sir, leſt this diſcourſe may ſeem tedious, I ſhall give it a ſweet conclufion out of that holy Poet Mr. *George Herbert* * his divine contemplation on God's providence.

Lord, who hath praiſe enough, nay, who hath any?
None can expreſs thy works, but he that knows them;
And none can know thy works, they are ſo many,
And ſo compleat, but only he that ows them.

We all acknowledge both thy power and love
To be exact, tranſcendent and divine;

rendered ſomewhat queſtionable by the following paſſage in his diary, publiſhed by *Cha. Burman*, Eſq: in 12*mo.* 1717.

" 11th *April*, 1681, I took, early in the morning, a good " doſe of elixir, and *hung three ſpiders about my neck*; and " they drove my ague away. *Deo gratias.*"

* See an account of this perſon in *Walton*'s life.

Who

Who doſt ſo ſtrangely and ſo ſweetly move,
Whilſt all things have their end, yet none but thine.

Wherefore, moſt ſacred Spirit, I here preſent
For me, and all my fellows, praiſe to thee;
And juſt it is that I ſhould pay the rent,
Becauſe the benefit accrues to me.

And as concerning fiſh in that Pſalm, *Pſal.* 104. wherein for height of poetry and wonders the prophet *David* ſeems even to exceed himſelf, how doth he there expreſs himſelf in choice Metaphors, even to the amazement of a contemplative Reader, concerning the ſea, the rivers, and the fiſh therein contained? And the great naturaliſt *Pliny* ſays, "That nature's great and "wonderful power is more demonſtrated in the "ſea than on the land." And this may appear by the numerous and various creatures inhabiting both in and about that element; as to the Readers of *Geſner* *, *Rondeletius* †, *Pliny*, *Auſonius* ‖, *Ariſtotle*, and others, may be demonſtrated. But

* *Conrade Geſner*, of *Zurich* in *Switzerland*, an eminent Phyſician and Naturaliſt; wrote *Hiſtoria Animalium*, *De Serpentum Natura*, and many other works. He died 1565, aged 49.

† *Guillaume Rondelet*, an eminent Phyſician, born at *Montpellier* in *Languedoc*, 1507; he wrote ſeveral books, and a treatiſe *De Piſcibus Marinis*; where all that *Walton* has taken from him is to be found. He died very poor of a ſurfeit, occaſion'd by exceſſive eating of figs, in 1566.

‖ *Decius Auſonius*, a native of *Bourdeaux*, was a *Latin* poet, Conſul of *Rome*, and Preceptor to the Emperor *Gratian*. He died about 390.

I will ſweeten this diſcourſe alſo out of a contemplation in divine *du Bartas* *, who ſays,

du Bartas, in the fifth day.

God quickned in the ſea and in the rivers,
So many fiſhes of ſo many features,
That in the waters we may ſee all creatures,
Even all that on the earth are to be found,
As if the world were in deep waters drown'd.
For ſeas as well as ſkies have Sun, Moon, Stars;
As well as air Swallows, Rooks, and Stares †;
As well as earth Vines, Roſes, Nettles, Melons,
Muſhrooms, Pinks, Gilliflowers, and many millions,
Of other plants, more rare, more ſtrange than theſe,
As very fiſhes living in the ſeas:
As alſo Rams, Calves, Horſes, Hares and Hogs,
Wolves, Urchins, Lions, Elephants, and Dogs;
Yea men and maids, and which I moſt admire,
The mitred Biſhop, and the cowled Fryer ‖.

Of

* *Guillaume* de *Saluſte Sieur du Bartas*, was a poet of great reputation in *Walton*'s time. He wrote, in *French* a poem called *Divine Weeks and Works*; from whence the paſſage in the text, and many others cited in this work, are extracted. This, with his other *delightful* works, was tranſlated into *Engliſh* by *Joſhua Sylveſter*. It is hard to ſay which is worſt, the poem or the tranſlation; for they are both execrable bombaſt.

† Or *Starlings* Minſh.

‖ This ſtory of the Biſhop-fiſh is told by *Rondeletius*, and vouched by *Bellonius*; without taking much pains in the tranſlation, it is as follows: "In the year 1531, a fiſh was "taken in *Polonia*, that repreſented a Biſhop; he was "brought to the King; but ſeeming to deſire to return to "his own element, the King commanded him to be carried "back to the ſea; into which he immediately threw him-"ſelf." *Rondeletius* had before related a ſtory of a Monk-fiſh; which

Of which, examples but a few years ſince,
Were ſhewn the Norway *and* Polonian *Prince.*

Theſe ſeem to be wonders, but have had ſo many confirmations from men of learning and credit, that you need not doubt them; nor are the number, nor the various ſhapes of fiſhes, more ſtrange or more fit for contemplation, than their different natures, inclinations and actions; concerning which I ſhall beg your patient ear a little longer.

The Cuttle-fiſh will caſt a long gut out of her throat, which, like as an Angler doth his line, ſhe ſendeth forth and pulleth in again at her pleaſure, according as ſhe ſees ſome little fiſh come near to her; and the Cuttle-fiſh *, being then hid in the gravel, lets the ſmaller fiſh nibble and bite the end of it, at which time ſhe by little and little draws the ſmaller fiſh ſo near to her, that ſhe may leap upon her, and then catches and devours her: and for this reaſon ſome have called this fiſh the Sea Angler.

* *Mont.* eſſays, and others, affirm this.

And there is a fiſh called a Hermit, that at a certain age gets into a dead fiſhes ſhell, and like a hermit dwells there alone, ſtudying the wind and weather, and ſo turns her ſhell, that ſhe makes it defend her from the injuries that they would bring upon her.

which is what *du Bartas* means by the "cowled Fryer." The reader may ſee the portraits of theſe wonderful perſonages in *Rondeletius*, or in the poſthumous works of the reverend and learned Mr. *John Gregory*, in 4to. *Lond.* 1683. Pag. 121, 122.

There is alſo a fiſh called, by *Ælian* * in his 9th book of living creatures, Ch. 16. the *Adonis* or darling of the ſea; ſo called, becauſe it is a loving and innocent fiſh, a fiſh that hurts nothing that hath life, and is at peace with all the numerous inhabitants of that vaſt watry element; and truly I think moſt Anglers are ſo diſpoſed to moſt of mankind.

And there are alſo luſtful and chaſte fiſhes, of which I ſhall give you examples.

And firſt, what *du Bartas* ſays of a fiſh called the *Sargus:* which becauſe none can expreſs it better than he does, I ſhall give you in his own words, ſuppoſing it ſhall not have the leſs credit for being verſe, for he hath gathered this, and other obſervations out of authors that have been great and induſtrious ſearchers into the ſecrets of nature.

The adult'rous Sargus *doth not only change*
Wives every day in the deep ſtreams, but ſtrange!
As if the bony of ſea-love delight
Could not ſuffice his ranging appetite,
Goes courting ſhe-goats on the graſſy ſhore,
Horning their huſbands that had horns before.

And the ſame author writes concerning the *Cantharus*, that which you ſhall alſo hear in his own words.

But contrary, the conſtant Cantharus
Is ever conſtant to his faithful ſpouſe,
In nuptial duties ſpending his chaſte life,
Never loves any but his own dear wife.

* *Claudius Ælianus*, was born at *Præneſte* in *Italy*, in the reign of the Emperor *Adrian*. He wrote *de Animalia*; and on martial diſcipline.

Sir,

Sir, but a little longer, and I have done.

Ven. Sir, take what liberty you think fit, for your diſcourſe ſeems to be muſick, and charms me to an attention.

Piſc. Why then Sir, I will take a little liberty to tell, or rather to remember you what is ſaid of Turtle-Doves; firſt, that they ſilently plight their troth and marry; and that then, the ſurviver ſcorns, as the *Thracian* women are ſaid to do, to out-live his or her mate, and this is taken for a truth, and if the ſurviver ſhall ever couple with another, then not only the living but the dead, be it either the he or the ſhe, is denied the name and honour of a true Turtle-Dove.

And to parallel this land-rarity, and teach mankind moral faithfulneſs, and to condemn thoſe that talk of religion, and yet come ſhort of the moral faith of fiſh and fowl; men that violate the law affirmed by Saint *Paul Rom.* 2. 14, 15. to be writ in their hearts, and which he ſays, ſhall at the laſt day condemn and leave them without excuſe. I pray hearken to what *du Bartas* ſings, for the hearing of ſuch conjugal faithfulneſs, will be muſick to all chaſte ears, and therefore I pray hearken to what *du Bartas* ſings of the Mullet.

du Bartas, fifth day.

But for chaſte love the Mullet *hath no peer;*
For, if the fiſher hath ſurpriz'd her pheer *,
As mad with woe, to ſhore ſhe followeth,
Preſt to conſort him both in life and death.

* Or Fellow. So Bed-pheer, Bed-fellow.

On

On the contrary, what ſhall I ſay of the Houſe-Cock, which treads any hen, and then, contrary to the Swan, the Partridge and Pigeon, takes no care to hatch, to feed or to cheriſh his own brood, but is ſenſeleſs, though they periſh.

And 'tis conſiderable, that the hen, which becauſe ſhe alſo takes any Cock, expects it not, who is ſure the chickens be her own, hath by a moral impreſſion her care and affection to her own brood more than doubled, even to ſuch a height, that our Saviour in expreſſing his love to *Jeruſalem*, *Mat.* 23. 37. quotes her for an example of tender affection; as his Father had done *Job* for a pattern of patience.

And to parallel this Cock, there be divers fiſhes that caſt their ſpawn on flags or ſtones, and then leave it uncovered, and expoſed to become a prey, and be devoured by vermine, or other fiſhes; but other fiſhes, as namely the Barbel, take ſuch care for the preſervation of their ſeed, that, unlike to the Cock or the Cuckoe, they mutually labour, both the ſpawner and the melter, to cover their ſpawn with ſand, or watch it, or hide it in ſome ſecret place unfrequented by vermine or by any fiſh but themſelves.

Sir, theſe examples may, to you and others, ſeem ſtrange; but they are teſtifyed ſome by *Ariſtotle*, ſome by *Pliny*, ſome by *Geſner*, and by many others of credit, and are believed and known by divers, both of wiſdom and experience, to be a truth; and indeed are, as I ſaid at the beginning, fit for the contemplation of a moſt ſerious and a moſt pious man. And doubtleſs this made the prophet *David* ſay, "They "that occupy themſelves in deep waters ſee the

"won-

" wonderful works of God :" indeed ſuch wonders and pleaſures too as the land affords not.

And that they be fit for the contemplation of the moſt prudent, and pious, and peaceable men, ſeems to be teſtifyed by the practice of ſo many devout and contemplative men, as the Patriarchs and Prophets of old, and of the Apoſtles of our Saviour in our latter times; of which twelve, we are ſure he choſe four that were ſimple fiſher-men, whom he inſpired and ſent to publiſh his bleſſed will to the Gentiles, and inſpired them alſo with a power to ſpeak all languages, and by their powerful eloquence to beget faith in the unbelieving Jews : and themſelves to ſuffer for that Saviour whom their fore fathers and they had crucified, and, in their ſufferings, to preach freedom from the incumbrances of the law, and a new way to everlaſting life. This was the imployment of theſe happy fiſhermen, concerning which choice, ſome have made theſe obſervations.

Firſt, That he never reproved theſe for their imployment or calling, as he did Scribes and the Money-changers. And ſecondly, He found that the hearts of ſuch men by nature were fitted for contemplation and quietneſs; men of mild, and ſweet, and peaceable ſpirits, as indeed moſt Anglers are : theſe men our bleſſed Saviour, who is obſerved to love to plant grace in good natures, though indeed nothing be too hard for him, yet theſe men he choſe to call from their irreprovable imployment of fiſhing, and gave them grace to be his diſciples, and to follow him and do wonders ; I ſay four of twelve.

And

And it is obſervable, that it was our Saviour's will, that theſe our four fiſhermen ſhould have a priority of nomination in the catalogue of his twelve apoſtles, *Mat.* x. as namely, firſt *St. Peter*, *St. Andrew*, *St. James*, and *St. John*, and then the reſt in their order.

And it is yet more obſervable, that when our bleſſed Saviour went up into the mount, when he left the reſt of his diſciples and choſe only three to bear him company at his Tranſfiguration, that thoſe three were all fiſhermen. And it is to be believed, that all the other apoſtles, after they betook themſelves to follow Chriſt, betook themſelves to be fiſhermen too; for it is certain, that the greater number of them were found together fiſhing by Jeſus after his reſurrection, as it is recorded in the 21ſt chapter of *St. John*'s goſpel.

And ſince I have your promiſe to hear me with patience, I will take a liberty to look back upon an obſervation that hath been made by an ingenious and learned man, who obſerves, that God hath been pleaſed to allow thoſe, whom he himſelf hath appointed to write his holy will in holy writ, yet, to expreſs his will in ſuch metaphors as their former affections or practice had inclined them to; and he brings *Solomon* for an example, who before his converſion was remarkably carnally-amorous; and after by God's appointment wrote that ſpiritual dialogue or holy amorous love-ſong the Canticles, betwixt God and his church; in which he ſays his beloved had Eyes like the fiſh-pools of *Heſhbon*.

And if this hold in reaſon, as I ſee none to the contrary, then it may be probably concluded, that

that *Moſes* who, I told you before, writ the book of *Job*, and the prophet *Amos*, who was a ſhepherd, were both Anglers; for you ſhall in all the old teſtament find fiſh-hooks, I think but twice mentioned, namely, by meek *Moſes* the friend of God, and by the humble prophet *Amos*.

Concerning which laſt, namely the prophet *Amos* I ſhall make but this obſervation, that he that ſhall read the humble, lowly, plain ſtyle of that prophet, and compare it with the high glorious, eloquent ſtyle of the prophet *Iſaiah*, though they be both equally true, may eaſily believe *Amos* to be, not only a ſhepherd, but a good-natur'd, plain Fiſherman.

Which I do the rather believe by comparing the affectionate, loving, lowly, humble epiſtles of *St. Peter*, *St. James*, and *St. John*, whom we know were all fiſhers, with the glorious language and high metaphors of *St. Paul*, who we may believe was not.

And for the lawfulnefs of fiſhing it may very well be maintained by our Saviour's bidding *St. Peter* caſt his hook into the water and catch a fiſh, for money to pay tribute to *Cæſar*. And let me tell you, that Angling is of high eſteem, and of much uſe in other nations. He that reads the voyages of *Ferdinand Mendez Pinto**, ſhall find, that there he declares to have found a King and ſeveral Prieſts a fiſhing.

And he that reads *Plutarch*, ſhall find that Angling was not contemptible in the days of *Mark Antony* and *Cleopatra*, and that they in the

* A traveller, whoſe veracity is much queſtion'd.

midſt

midſt of their wonderful glory uſed Angling as a principal recreation. And let me tell you, that in the Scripture, Angling is always taken in the beſt ſenſe, and that though hunting may be ſometimes ſo taken, yet it is but ſeldom to be ſo underſtood. And let me add this more, he that views the ancient eccleſiaſtical canons, ſhall find hunting to be forbidden to church-men, as being a turbulent, toilſome, perplexing recreation; and ſhall find Angling allowed to clergy-men, as being a harmleſs recreation, a recreation that invites them to contemplation and quietneſs.

I might here enlarge myſelf by telling you, what commendations our learned *Perkins* beſtows on Angling: and how dear a lover, and great a practiſer of it our learned Doctor *Whitaker* * was, as indeed many others of great learning have been. But I will content myſelf with two memorable men, that lived near to our own time, whom I alſo take to have been ornaments to the art of Angling.

1550. The firſt is Doctor *Nowel* ſometimes Dean of the cathedral church of St. *Paul*'s in *London* where his monument ſtands yet undefaced †, a man that in the reformation of Queen *Elizabeth*,

* *Perkins* and *Whitaker* were two eminent Divines of the begiuning of the laſt century; the latter was a very learned man. See his life in *Fuller*'s *Holy State*.

† Dr. *Alexander Nowell*, a learned Divine and a famous preacher in the reign of King *Ed.* VI. upon whoſe death he, with many other Proteſtants, fled to *Germany*, where he lived many years. In 1561 he was made Dean of *St. Paul*'s; and in 1601 died. The monument mentioned in the text was undoubtedly conſumed with the church, in the fire of *London*; but the inſcription thereon is preſerved in *Stow*'s Surv.

Elizabeth, not that of *Henry* VIII. was ſo noted for his meek ſpirit, deep learning, prudence and piety, that the then parliament and convocation both, choſe, enjoined and truſted him to be the man to make a catechiſm for publick uſe, ſuch a one as ſhould ſtand as a rule for faith and manners to their poſterity. And the good old man, though he was very learned, yet knowing that God leads us not to heaven by many nor by hard queſtions, like an honeſt Angler, made that good, plain, unperplexed catechiſm which is printed with our good old Service-Book. I ſay, this good man was a dear lover, and conſtant practiſer of Angling, as any age can produce; and his cuſtom was to ſpend beſides his fixed hours of prayer, thoſe hours which by command of the church were enjoined the clergy, and voluntarily dedicated to devotion by many primitive Chriſtians: I ſay, beſides thoſe hours, this good man was obſerved to ſpend a tenth part of his time in Angling; and alſo, for I have converſed with thoſe which have converſed with him, to beſtow a tenth part of his revenue, and uſually all his fiſh, amongſt the poor that inhabited near to thoſe rivers in which it was caught: ſaying often, "That charity gave life to religion:" and at his return to his houſe would praiſe God he had ſpent that day free from worldly trouble; both harmleſly, and in a recreation that became a

Surv. Ed. 1633. Page 362. See *Athen. Oxon*, 313. The reader will obſerve, that it is the author, and not the editor who is ſpeaking; and that the adverb *yet* refers to the time when this paſſage was firſt written, *viz.* about 1653; for in that year the firſt edition of this book was publiſhed.

church-

church-man. And this good man was well content, if not desirous, that posterity should know he was an Angler, as may appear by his picture, now to be seen, and carefully kept in *Brasennose-College*, to which he was a liberal benefactor, in which Picture he is drawn leaning on a desk with his Bible before him, and on one hand of him his lines, hooks, and other tackling lying in a round; and on his other hand are his Angle-rods of several sorts: and by them this is written, "That he died 13 *Feb.* 1601, being aged 95 "years, 44 of which he had been Dean of St. "*Paul*'s church; and that his age had neither "impaired his hearing, nor dimmed his eyes, "nor weakned his memory, nor made any of "the faculties of his mind weak or useless." 'Tis said that Angling and temperance were great causes of these blessings, and I wish the like to all that imitate him, and love the memory of so good a man.

My next and last example shall be that undervaluer of money, the late provost of *Eton College*, Sir *Henry Wotton* *, a man with whom I have often fished and conversed, a man whose foreign imployments in the service of this nation, and whose experience, learning, wit and chearfulness, made his company to be esteemed one of the delights of mankind; this man, whose very approbation of Angling were sufficient to convince any modest censurer of it, this man was also a most dear lover, and a frequent practiser of the art of Angling; of which he would say, "'Twas "an imployment for his idle time, which was

* Of whom see an account in the life of *Walton*.

then

" then not idly ſpent" : for Angling was, after tedious ſtudy, " a reſt to his mind, a chearer of " his ſpirits, a diverter of ſadneſs, a calmer of " unquiet thoughts, a moderator of paſſions, a " procurer of contentedneſs" : And " that it " begat habits of peace and patience in thoſe " that profeſſed and practiſed it." Indeed, my friend, you will find Angling to be like the vertue of humility, which has a calmneſs of ſpirit, and a world of other bleſſings attending upon it.

Sir, this was the ſaying of that learned man, and I do eaſily believe that peace, and patience, and a calm content, did cohabit in the chearful heart of Sir *Henry Wotton*, becauſe I know that when he was beyond ſeventy years of age, he made this deſcription of a part of the preſent pleaſure that poſſeſſed him, as he ſate quietly in a ſummer's evening on a bank a Fiſhing; it is a deſcription of the ſpring, which, becauſe it glided as ſoft and ſweetly from his pen, as that river does at this time, by which it was then made, I ſhall repeat it unto you.

This day dame Nature ſeem'd in love:
The luſty ſap began to move;
Freſh juice did ſtir th' embracing Vines,
And birds had drawn their Valentines,
The jealous Trout, *that low did lye,*
Roſe at a well diſſembled flie;
There ſtood my friend with patient ſkill,
Attending of his trembling quill.
Already were the eaves poſſeſt
*With the ſwift Pilgrim's * dawbed neſt:*

* The Swallow.

The groves already did rejoice,
In Philomel's *triumphing voice:*
The ſhowers were ſhort, the weather mild,
The morning freſh, the evening ſmil'd.
Jone *takes her neat rub'd pail, and now*
She trips to milk the ſand-red Cow;
Where, for ſome ſturdy foot-ball Swain,
Jone *ſtrokes a Sillabub or twain,*
The fields and gardens were beſet
With Tulips, Crocus, Violet;
And now, though late, the modeſt Roſe
Did more than half a bluſh diſcloſe.
Thus all looks gay, and full of chear,
To welcome the new livery'd year.

Theſe were the thoughts that then poſſeſt the undiſturbed mind of Sir *Henry Wotton*. Will you hear the wiſh of another Angler, and the commendation of his happy life which he alſo ſings in Verſe? *viz. Jo. Davors*, Eſq;

Let me live harmleſly, and near the brink
Of Trent *or* Avon *have a dwelling place;*
Where I may ſee my quill or cork down ſink
With eager bite of Perch, or Bleak, or Dace,
And on the world and my creator think;
Whilſt ſome men ſtrive ill gotten goods t'embrace;
And others ſpend their time in baſe exceſs
Of wine, or worſe, in war and wantonneſs.

Let them that liſt, theſe paſtimes ſtill purſue,
And on ſuch pleaſing fancies feed their fill,
So I the Fields and Meadows green may view,
And daily by freſh Rivers walk at will,
Among the Daiſies and the Violets blue.
Red Hyacinth, and yellow Daffadil,

Purple

Purple Narciſſus like the morning rayes
Pale Gandergraſſe, and azure Culverkeyes.

I count it higher pleaſure to behold
The ſtately compaſſe of the loftie ſkie,
And in the midſt thereof, like burning gold,
The flaming Chariot of the world's great eye,
The watry clouds that in the air up rol'd,
With ſundry kinds of painted colours flie;
And fair Aurora *lifting up her head,*
Still bluſhing, riſe from old Tithonus *bed.*

The hills and mountains raiſed from the plains,
The plains extended level with the ground,
The grounds divided into ſundry veins,
The veins inclos'd with rivers running round;
Theſe rivers making way through nature's chains
With headlong courſe into the ſea profound;
The raging ſea, beneath the vallies low,
Where lakes and rills and rivulets do flow.

The lofty woods the foreſts wide and long,
Adorn'd with leaves and branches freſh and green,
In whoſe cool bowers the birds with many a ſong
Do welcome with their Quire the Summer's Queen:
The meadows fair where Flora's *gifts among*
Are intermixt, with verdant graſſe between,
The ſilver-ſcaled fiſh that ſoftly ſwim
Within the ſweet brook's chryſtal, watry ſtream.

All theſe, and many more of his Creation
That made the heavens, the Angler oft doth ſee;
Taking therein no little delectation,
To think how ſtrange, how wonderful they be;
Framing thereof an inward contemplation,
To ſet his heart from other fancies free;

And whilſt he looks on theſe with joyful eye,
His mind is rapt above the ſtarry ſkie.

Sir, I am glad my memory has not loſt theſe laſt Verſes, becauſe they are ſomewhat more pleaſant and more ſutable to *May-day*, than my harſh diſcourſe, and I am glad your patience hath held out ſo long, as to hear them and me: for both together have brought us within the ſight of the *Thatcht-houſe:* and I muſt be your debtor, if you think it worth your attention, for the reſt of my promiſed diſcourſe, till ſome other opportunity, and a like time of leiſure.

Ven. Sir, you have Angled me on with much pleaſure to the *Thatcht-houſe*: and I now find your words true, "That good company makes "the way ſeem ſhort;" for truſt me, Sir, I thought we had wanted three miles of this houſe till you ſhewed it to me: but now we are at it, we'll turn into it, and refreſh ourſelves with a cup of drink and a little reſt.

Piſc. Moſt gladly, Sir, and we'll drink a civil cup to all the Otter-hunters that are to meet you to-morrow.

Ven. That we will, Sir, and to all the lovers of Angling too, of which number I am now willing to be one myſelf; for by the help of your good diſcourſe and company, I have put on new thoughts both of the art of Angling, and of all that profeſs it: and if you will but meet me to-morrow at the time and place appointed, and beſtow one day with me and my friends in hunting the Otter, I will dedicate the next two days to wait upon you, and we two will for that time

time do nothing but Angle, and talk of fiſh and fiſhing.

Piſc. 'Tis a match, Sir, I'll not fail you, God willing, to be at *Amwell-hill* to-morrow morning before Sun-riſing.

CHAP. II.

Obſervations of the OTTER *and* CHUB.

VENATOR.

MY Friend *Piſcator*, you have kept time with my thoughts, for the Sun is juſt riſing, and I myſelf juſt now come to this place, and the dogs have juſt now put down an Otter. Look down at the bottom of the hill there in that meadow, chequered with Water-lillies and Lady-ſmocks; there you may ſee what work they make: look, look, you may ſee all buſie, men and dogs, dogs and men all buſie.

Piſc. Sir, I am right glad to meet you, and glad to have ſo fair an entrance into this dayes ſport, and glad to ſee ſo many dogs, and more men all in purſuit of the Otter; let's compliment no longer, but join unto them; come honeſt *Venator*, let's be gone, let us make haſte; I long to be doing: no reaſonable hedge or ditch ſhall hold me.

Ven. Gentleman Huntſman, where found you this Otter?

Hunt. Marry Sir, we found her a mile from this place a fiſhing: ſhe has this morning eaten the greateſt part of this Trout; ſhe has only left thus much of it as you ſee, and was fiſhing for more; when we came we found her juſt at it: but we were here very early, we were here an hour before Sun-riſe, and have given her no reſt ſince we came; ſure ſhe will hardly eſcape all theſe dogs and men. I am to have the ſkin if we kill her.

Ven. Why, Sir, what's the ſkin worth?

Hunt. 'Tis worth ten ſhillings to make gloves; the gloves of an Otter are the beſt fortification for your hands that can be thought on againſt wet weather.

Piſc. I pray, honeſt Huntſman, let me aſk you a pleaſant queſtion; do you hunt a beaſt or a fiſh?

Hunt. Sir, it is not in my power to reſolve you, I leave it to be reſolved by the colledge of *Carthuſians*, who have made vows never to eat fleſh. But I have heard, the queſtion hath been debated among many great clerks, and they ſeem to differ about it; yet moſt agree that her tail is fiſh: and if her body be fiſh too, then I may ſay, that a fiſh will walk upon land, for an Otter does ſo ſometimes five or ſix, or ten miles in a night to catch for her young ones, or to glut herſelf with fiſh, and I can tell you that Pigeons will fly forty miles for a breakfaſt; but Sir, I am ſure the Otter devours much fiſh, and kills and ſpoils much more than he eats: and I can tell you, that this dog-fiſher, for ſo the Latins call him, can ſmell a fiſh in the water an hundred

hundred yards from him: *Geſner* ſays much farther, and that his ſtones are good againſt the falling-ſickneſs: and that there is an herb *Benione*, which being hung in a linnen cloth near a fiſh-pond, or any haunt that he uſes, makes him to avoid the place; which proves he ſmells both by water and land; and I can tell you there is brave hunting this water-dog in *Cornwall*, where there have been ſo many, that our learned *Camden* ſays, there is a river called *Otterſey*, which was ſo named, by reaſon of the abundance of Otters that bred and fed in it.

And thus much for my knowledge of the Otter, which you may now ſee above water at vent, and the dogs cloſe with him; I now ſee he will not laſt long, follow therefore my maſters, follow, for *Sweetlips* was like to have him at this laſt vent.

Ven. Oh me, all the horſe are got over the river, what ſhall we do now? ſhall we follow them over the water.

Hunt. No, Sir, no, be not ſo eager, ſtay a little and follow me, for both they, and the dogs will be ſuddenly on this ſide again, I warrant you; and the Otter too, it may be: now have at him with *Kilbuck*, for he vents again.

Ven. Marry ſo he do's, for look he vents in that corner. Now, now *Ringwood* has him: now he's gone again, and has bit the poor dog. Now *Sweetlips* has her; hold her *Sweetlips!* now all the dogs have her, ſome above and ſome under water; but now, now ſhe's tir'd, and paſt loſing: come bring her to me, *Sweetlips*. Look, 'tis a Bitch-Otter, and ſhe has lately whelp'd,

let's go to the place where ſhe was put down, and not far from it you will find all her young ones, I dare warrant you, and kill them all too.

Hunt. Come, gentlemen, come all, let's go to the place where we put down the Otter. Look you, hereabout it was that ſhe kennel'd; look you, here it was indeed, for here's her young ones, no leſs than five; come let's kill them all.

Piſc. No, I pray Sir, ſave me one, and I'll try if I can make her tame, as I know an ingenious Gentleman in *Lieceſterſhire*, Mr. *Nich. Seagrave*, has done; who hath not only made her tame, but to catch fiſh, and do many other things of much pleaſure.

Hunt. Take one with all my heart, but let us kill the reſt. And now let's go to an honeſt Ale-houſe, where we may have a cup of good Barley-wine, and ſing Old Roſe, and all of us rejoice together.

Venat. Come my friend, *Piſcator*, let me invite you along with us; I'll bear your charges this night, and you ſhall bear mine to-morrow; for my intention is to accompany you a day or two in fiſhing.

Piſc. Sir, your requeſt is granted, and I ſhall be right glad, both to exchange ſuch a courteſie, and alſo to enjoy your company.

Venat. Well, now let's go to your ſport of Angling.

Piſc. Let's be going with all my heart. God keep you all, gentlemen, and ſend you meet this day with another Bitch-Otter, and kill her merrily, and all her young ones too.

Ven.

Venat. Now, *Piſcator*, where will you begin to fiſh?

Piſc. We are not yet come to a likely place, I muſt walk a mile further yet, before I begin.

Venat. Well then, I pray, as we walk tell me freely, how do you like your lodging and mine Hoſte and the company? is not mine Hoſte a witty man?

Piſc. Sir, I will tell you preſently what I think of your Hoſte; but firſt I will tell you, I am glad theſe Otters were killed, and I am ſorry there are no more Otter-killers: for I know that the want of Otter-killers, and the not keeping the Fence-months for the preſervation of fiſh, will in time prove the deſtruction of all Rivers; and thoſe very few that are left, that make conſcience of the laws of the nation, and of keeping days of abſtinence, will be forced to eat fleſh, or ſuffer more inconveniencies than are yet foreſeen.

Venat. Why Sir, what be thoſe that you call the Fence-months?

Piſc. Sir, they be principally three, namely, *March*, *April*, and *May*, for theſe be the uſual months that Salmon come out of the Sea to ſpawn in moſt freſh Rivers, and their Fry would about a certain time return back to the ſalt water, if they were not hindred by wires and unlawful gins, which the greedy Fiſhermen ſet, and ſo deſtroy them by thouſands, as they would, being ſo taught by nature, change the freſh for ſalt water. He that ſhall view the wiſe Statutes made in the 13th of *Edward* I. and the like in *Richard*

Richard III. may ſee ſeveral proviſions made againſt the deſtruction of Fiſh: and though I profeſs no knowledg of the Law, yet I am ſure the regulation of theſe defects might be eaſily mended. But I remember that a wiſe friend of mine did uſually ſay, "That which is every bodies buſineſs, is no bodies buſineſs." If it were otherwiſe, there could not be ſo many Nets and Fiſh that are under the Statute-ſize, ſold daily amongſt us, and of which the conſervators of the waters ſhould be aſhamed.

But above all, the taking Fiſh in Spawning-time, may be ſaid to be againſt nature; it is like the taking the dam on the neſt when ſhe hatches her young: a ſin ſo againſt nature, that Almighty God hath in the *Levitical* Law made a Law againſt it.

But the poor Fiſh have enemies enough beſide ſuch unnatural Fiſhermen, as namely, the Otters that I ſpake of, the Cormorant, the Bittern, the Oſpray, the Sea-gull, the Hern, the Kingfiſher, the Gorara, the Puet, the Swan, Gooſe, Ducks, and the Craber, which ſome call the Water-rat: againſt all which any honeſt man may make a juſt quarrel, but I will not, I will leave them to be quarrelled with, and kill'd by others; for I am not of a cruel nature, I love to kill nothing but Fiſh.

And now to your queſtion concerning your Hoſte; to ſpeak truly, he is not to me a good companion: for moſt of his conceits were either Scripture-jeſts, or laſcivious jeſts; for which I count no man witty, for the Devil will help a man that way inclined, to the firſt; and his own

corrupt

corrupt nature, which he always carries with him, to the latter; but a companion that feasts the company with wit and mirth, and leaves out the sin which is usually mixed with them, he is the man; and indeed such a companion should have his charges born, and to such company I hope to bring you this night; for at *Trout-hall*, not far from this place, where I purpose to lodge to night, there is usually an Angler that proves good company: and let me tell you, good company and good discourse are the very sinews of vertue: but for such discourse as we heard last night, it infects others, the very boys will learn to talk and swear as they heard mine Host, and another of the company that shall be nameless; I am sorry the other is a Gentleman, for less Religion will not save their Souls than a Beggar's; I think more will be required at the last great day. Well, you know what Example is able to do, and I know what the Poet says in the like case, which is worthy to be noted by all parents and people of civility.

——————— Many a one
Owes to his country his religion:
And in another would as strongly grow,
Had but his nurse or mother taught him so.

This is reason put into Verse, and worthy the consideration of a wise man. But of this no more, for though I love civility, yet I hate severe censures: I'll to my own art, and I doubt not but at yonder tree I shall catch a Chub, and then we'll turn to an honest cleanly Hostess, that I know

know right well; reſt our ſelves there, and dreſs it for our dinner.

Ven. Oh Sir, a Chub is the worſt Fiſh that ſwims, I hoped for a Trout to my dinner.

Piſc. Truſt me, Sir, there is not a likely place for a Trout hereabout, and we ſtaid ſo long to take our leave of your Huntſmen this morning, that the Sun is got ſo high, and ſhines ſo clear, that I will not undertake the catching of a Trout till evening; and though a Chub be by you and many others reckoned the worſt of Fiſh, yet you ſhall ſee I'll make it a good Fiſh, by dreſſing it.

Ven. Why, how will you dreſs him?

Piſc. I'll tell you by and by, when I have caught him. Look you here, Sir, do you ſee? but you muſt ſtand very cloſe, there lye upon the top of the water in this very hole twenty Chubs, I'll catch only one, and that ſhall be the biggeſt of them all: and that I will do ſo, I'll hold you twenty to one, and you ſhall ſee it done.

Ven. I marry Sir, now you talk like an Artiſt, and I'll ſay you are one, when I ſhall ſee you perform what you ſay you can do; but I yet doubt it.

Piſc. You ſhall not doubt it long, for you ſhall ſee me do it preſently: look, the biggeſt of theſe Chubs has had ſome bruiſe upon his tail, by a Pike or ſome other accident, and that looks like a white ſpot; that very Chub I mean to put into your hands preſently; ſit you but down in the ſhade, and ſtay but a little while, and I'll warrant you I'll bring him to you.

Ven.

Ven. I'll ſit down and hope well, becauſe you ſeem to be ſo confident.

Piſc. Look you Sir, there is a tryal of my ſkill, there he is;

CHUB

That very Chub that I ſhewed you with the white ſpot on his tail: and I'll be as certain to make him a good diſh of meat, as I was to catch him. I'll now lead you to an honeſt Ale-houſe where we ſhall find a cleanly room, lavender in the windows, and twenty ballads ſtuck about the wall *; there my Hoſteſs, which I may tell you, is both cleanly and handſome and civil, hath dreſt many a one for me, and ſhall now dreſs it after my faſhion, and I warrant it good meat.

Ven. Come Sir, with all my heart, for I begin to be hungry, and long to be at it, and

* A very homely, artleſs, and yet a pictureſque ſcene; and I wiſh the honeſt Angler no worſe entertainment than many ſuch houſes as this afford.

indeed

indeed to reſt my ſelf too; for though I have walk'd but four miles this morning, yet I begin to be weary; yeſterday's hunting hangs ſtill upon me.

Piſc. Well Sir, and you ſhall quickly be at reſt, for yonder is the houſe I mean to bring you to.

Come Hoſteſs, how do you? Will you firſt give us a cup of your beſt drink, and then dreſs this Chub, as you dreſt my laſt, when I and my friend were here about eight or ten days ago? but you muſt do me one courteſie, it muſt be done inſtantly.

Hoſt. I will do it, Mr. *Piſcator*, and with all the ſpeed I can.

Piſc. Now Sir, has not my Hoſteſs made haſte? and does not the fiſh look lovely?

Ven. Both, upon my word, Sir, and therefore let's ſay grace and fall to eating of it.

Piſc. Well Sir, how do you like it?

Ven. Truſt me, 'tis as good meat as I ever taſted: now let me thank you for it, drink to you, and beg a courteſie of you; but it muſt not be deny'd me.

Piſc. What is it I pray Sir: you are ſo modeſt, that methinks I may promiſe to grant it before it is aſked.

Ven. Why Sir, it is, that from henceforth you would allow me to call you *Maſter*, and that really I may be your Scholar, for you are ſuch a companion, and have ſo quickly caught, and ſo excellently cook'd this fiſh, as makes me ambitious to be your Scholar.

Piſc. Give me your hand; from this time forward I will be your Maſter, and teach you as much

Plate II. to Front Page. 56.

Pub.d According to Act of Parliam.t 1769.

much of this Art as I am able; and will, as you desire me, tell you somewhat of the nature of most of the Fish that we are to angle for, and I am sure I both can and will tell you more than any common Angler yet knows.

CHAP. III.

How to fish for, and to dress the CHAVENDER *or* CHUB.

PISCATOR.

THE Chub, though he eat well thus drest, yet as he is usually drest, he does not: he is objected against, not only for being full of small forked bones, dispersed through all his body, but that he eats watrish, and that the flesh of him is not firm, but short and tastless. The *French* esteem him so mean, as to call him *Un Villain*; nevertheless he may be so drest as to make him very good meat; as namely, if he be a large Chub, then dress him thus:

First scale him, and then wash him clean, and then take out his guts; and to that end make the hole as little and near to his gills as you may conveniently, and especially make clean his throat from the grass and weeds that are usually in it, for if that be not very clean, it will make him to taste very sour; having so done, put some sweet herbs into his belly, and then tye him with two or three splinters to a spit, and roast him, basted often

often with vinegar, or rather verjuice and butter, with good ſtore of ſalt mixed with it.

Being thus dreſt, you will find him a much better diſh of meat than you, or moſt folk, even than Anglers themſelves do imagine; for this dries up the fluid watry humour with which all Chubs do abound.

But take this rule with you, that a Chub newly taken and newly dreſt, is ſo much better than a Chub of a day's keeping after he is dead, that I can compare him to nothing ſo fitly as to Cherries newly gathered from a tree, and others that have been bruiſed and lain a day or two in water. But the Chub being thus uſed and dreſt preſently, and not waſhed after he is gutted; for note, that lying long in water, and waſhing the blood out of any fiſh after they be gutted, abates much of their ſweetneſs, you will find the Chub being dreſt in the blood and quickly, to be ſuch meat as will recompence your labour, and diſabuſe your opinion.

Or you may dreſs the Chavender or Chub thus:

When you have ſcaled him, and cut off his tail and fins, and waſhed him very clean, then chine or ſlit him through the middle, as a ſalt fiſh is uſually cut; then give him three or four cuts or ſcotches on the back with your knife, and broil him on Char-coal, or Wood-coal that are free from ſmoke, and all the time he is a broyling baſte him with the beſt ſweet butter, and good ſtore of ſalt mixed with it; and to this add a little Thyme cut exceeding ſmall, or bruiſed into the butter. The Cheven thus dreſt hath the watry taſte taken away, for which ſo many

except

except againſt him. Thus was the Cheven dreſt that you now liked ſo well, and commended ſo much. But note again, that if this Chub that you eat of, had been kept till to-morrow, he had not been worth a ruſh. And remember that his throat be waſhed very clean, I ſay very clean, and his body not waſhed after he is gutted, as indeed no fiſh ſhould be.

Well Scholar, you ſee what pains I have taken to recover the loſt credit of the poor deſpiſed Chub. And now I will give you ſome rules how to catch him; and I am glad to enter you into the art of fiſhing by catching a Chub, for there is no Fiſh better to enter a young Angler, he is ſo eaſily caught, but then it muſt be this particular way.

Go to the ſame hole in which I caught my Chub, where in moſt hot daies you will find a dozen or twenty Chevens floating near the top of the water, get two or three Graſhoppers as you go over the meadow, and get ſecretly behind the tree, and ſtand as free from motion as is poſſible; then put a Graſhopper on your hook, and let your hook hang a quarter of a yard ſhort of the water, to which end you muſt reſt your rod on ſome bough of the tree, but it is likely the Chubs will ſink down towards the bottom of the water at the firſt ſhadow of your Rod, for a Chub is the fearfulleſt of fiſhes, and will do ſo if but a bird flies over him, and makes the leaſt ſhadow on the water; but they will preſently riſe up to the top again, and there lie ſoaring till ſome ſhadow affrights them again: I ſay when they lie upon the top of the water, look out the beſt Chub, which you, ſetting yourſelf in a fit

place, may very eaſily ſee, and move your Rod as ſoftly as a Snail moves, to that Chub you intend to catch; let your bait fall gently upon the water three or four inches before him, and he will infallibly take the bait, and you will be as ſure to catch him; for he is one of the leather-mouthed fiſhes, of which a hook does ſcarce ever loſe its hold; and therefore give him play enough before you offer to take him out of the water. Go your way preſently, take my Rod, and do as I bid you, and I will ſit down and mend my tackling till you return back.

Ven. Truly, my loving Maſter, you have offered me as fair as I could wiſh. I'll go and obſerve your directions.

Look you, Maſter, what I have done! that which joys my heart, caught juſt ſuch another Chub as your's was.

Piſc. Marry, and I am glad of it: I am like to have a towardly Scholar of you. I now ſee, that with advice and practice you will make an Angler in a ſhort time. Have but a love to it and I'll warrant you.

Ven. But Maſter, what if I could not have found a Graſhopper?

Piſc. Then I may tell you, that a black ſnail, with his belly ſlit, to ſhew his white: or a piece of ſoft cheeſe, will uſually do as well: nay, ſometimes a worm, or any kind of flie, as the Ant-flie, the Fleſh-flie, or Wall-flie, or the Dor or Beetle, which you may find under Cow-dung, or a Bob, which you will find in the ſame place, and in time will be a Beetle; it is a ſhort white worm, like to and bigger than a Gentle, or a Cod-worm, or a Caſe-worm, any of theſe will

do

do very well to fiſh in ſuch a manner. And after this manner you may catch a Trout in a hot evening: when as you walk by a Brook, and ſhall ſee or hear him leap at flies, then if you get a Graſhopper, put it on your hook, with your line about two yards long, ſtanding behind a buſh or tree where his hole is, and make your bait ſtir up and down on the top of the water: you may if you ſtand cloſe, be ſure of a bite, but not ſure to catch him, for he is not a leather-mouthed Fiſh: and after this manner you may fiſh for him with almoſt any kind of live flie, but eſpecially with a Graſhopper.

Ven. But before you go further, I pray good Maſter, what mean you by a leather-mouthed Fiſh?

Piſc. By a leather-mouthed Fiſh, I mean ſuch as have their teeth in their throat, as the Chub or Cheven, and ſo the Barbel, the Gudgeon and Carp, and divers others have; and the hook being ſtuck into the leather or ſkin of the mouth of ſuch fiſh, does very ſeldom or never loſe its hold: But on the contrary, a Pike, a Pearch, or Trout, and ſo ſome other Fiſh, which have not their teeth in their throats, but in their mouths, which you ſhall obſerve to be very full of bones, and the ſkin very thin, and little of it: I ſay, of theſe fiſh the hook never takes ſo ſure hold, but you often loſe your fiſh, unleſs he have gorged it.

Ven. I thank you, good Maſter, for this obſervation; but now what ſhall be done with my Chub or Cheven, that I have caught?

Piſc. Marry Sir, it ſhall be given away to ſome poor body, for I'll warrant you I'll give

you a Trout for your ſupper: and it is a good beginning of your Art to offer your firſt fruits to the poor, who will both thank God and you for it, which I ſee by your ſilence you ſeem to conſent to. And for your willingneſs to part with it ſo charitably, I will alſo teach more concerning Chub-Fiſhing: you are to note that in *March* and *April* he is uſually taken with worms; in *May*, *June*, and *July* he will bite at any flie, or at Cherries, or at Beetles with their legs and wings cut off, or at any kind of Snail, or at the black Bee that breeds in clay walls; and he never refuſes a Graſhopper on the top of a ſwift ſtream *, nor at the bottom the young humble-bee that breeds in long graſſe, and is ordinarily found by the Mower of it. In *Auguſt*, and in the cooler months, a yellow paſte, made of the ſtrongeſt cheeſe, and pounded in a Mortar with a little butter and ſaffron, ſo much of it as being beaten ſmall will turn it to a lemon colour. And ſome make a paſte for the Winter-months, at which time the Chub is accounted beſt, for then it is obſerved, that the forked bones are loſt or turned into a kind of griſtle, eſpecially if he be baked, of cheeſe and turpentine; he will bite alſo at a Minnow or Penk, as a Trout will: of which I ſhall tell you more hereafter, and of divers other baits. But take this for a rule, that in hot weather he is to be fiſhed for towards the mid-water, or near the top; and in colder wea-

* In the *Thames*, above *Richmond*, the beſt way of uſing the Graſshopper for Chub, is to fiſh with it as with an artificial Fly; the firſt Joints of the Legs muſt be pinched off: and in this way, when the weed is rotten, which is ſeldom till *September*, the largeſt Dace are taken.

ther

ther nearer the bottom. And if you fiſh for him on the top, with a beetle or any flie, then be ſure to let your line be very long, and to keep out of ſight. And having told you that his Spawn is excellent meat, and that the head of a large Cheven, the throat being well waſhed, is the beſt part of him, I will ſay no more of this Fiſh at the preſent, but wiſh you may catch the next you fiſh for.

But leſt you may judge me too nice in urging to have the Chub dreſt ſo preſently after he is taken, I will commend to your conſideration how curious former times have been in the like kind.

You ſhall read in *Seneca* his natural queſtions, *Lib.* 3. *Cap.* 17. that the ancients were ſo curious in the newneſſe of their fiſh, that that ſeemed not new enough that was not put alive into the gueſts hand; and he ſays that to that end they did uſually keep them living in glaſs bottles in their dining-rooms; and they did glory much in their entertaining of friends to have that fiſh taken from under their table alive, that was inſtantly to be fed upon. And he ſays, they took great pleaſure to ſee their Mullets change to ſeveral colours, when they were dying. But enough of this, for I doubt I have ſtayed too long from giving you ſome obſervations of the Trout, and how to fiſh for him, which ſhall take up the next of my ſpare time *.

CHAP.

* The *haunts* of the Chub are ſtreams ſhaded with trees; in ſummer deep holes; where they will ſometimes float near the ſurface of the water, and under the boughs on the ſide of a bank.

CHAP. IV.

Obſervations of the NATURE *and* BREEDING *of the* TROUT, *and how to fiſh for him. And the milk-maid's* Song.

PISCATOR.

THE Trout is a fiſh highly valued both in this and forraign Nations: he may be juſtly ſaid, as the old poet ſaid of wine, and we Engliſh ſay of veniſon, to be a generous fiſh: a fiſh that is ſo like the Buck that he alſo has his ſeaſons; for it is obſerved, that he comes in and goes out of ſeaſon with the Stag and Buck; *Geſner* ſays, his name is of a *German* off-ſpring, and ſays he is a fiſh that feeds clean and purely, in the ſwifteſt ſtreams, and on the hardeſt gravel; and that he may juſtly contend with all freſh-water fiſh, as the Mullet may with all ſea-fiſh for precedency and daintineſs of taſte, and that being in right ſeaſon, the moſt dainty palats have allowed precedency to him.

Their *Spawning-time* is towards the beginning of *April*: they are in ſeaſon from about the middle of *May*, till the middle of *February*; but are beſt in winter.

At mid-water, and at bottom, uſe a float; at top, either dib, or, if you have room, uſe the Fly-line as for Trout.

They are ſo eager in biting, that, when they take the bait, you may hear their jaws chop like thoſe of a dog.

And

And before I go farther in my diſcourſe, let me tell you, that you are to obſerve, that as there be ſome barren Does, that are good in ſummer, ſo there be ſome barren Trouts that are good in Winter; but there are not many that are ſo, for uſually they be in their perfection in the month of *May*, and decline with the Buck. Now you are to take notice, that in ſeveral Countries, as in *Germany* and in other parts, compar'd to our's, Fiſh do differ much in their bigneſs, and ſhape, and other ways, and ſo do Trouts; it is well known that in the Lake *Leman*, the Lake of *Geneva*, there are Trouts taken three Cubits long, as is affirmed by *Geſner*, a Writer of good credit; and *Mercator* * ſays, the Trouts that are taken in the Lake of *Geneva*, are a great part of the Merchandize of that famous City. And you are further to know, that there be certain waters that breed Trouts remarkable, both for their number and ſmallneſs. I know a little Brook in *Kent*, that breeds them to a number incredible, and you may take them twenty or forty in an hour, but none greater than about the ſize of a Gudgeon; There are alſo in divers Rivers, eſpecially that relate to, or be near to the Sea, as *Wincheſter*, or the *Thames* about *Windſor*, a little Trout called a Samlet or Skegger Trout, in both which places I have caught twenty or forty at a ſtanding, that will

* *Gerard Mercator*, of *Ruremond* in *Flanders*, a man of ſo intenſe application to mathematical ſtudies, that he neglected the neceſſary refreſhments of nature. He engraved with his own hand, and coloured, the maps to his geographical writings. He wrote ſeveral books of Theology; and died 1594.

bite as fast and as freely as Minnows; these be by some taken to be young Salmons, but in those waters they never grow to be bigger than a Herring.

There is also in *Kent* near to *Canterbury*, a Trout called there a *Fordidge* Trout, a Trout that bears the name of the Town where it is usually caught, that is accounted the rarest of Fish; many of them near the bigness of a Salmon, but known by their different colour, and in their best season they cut very white; and none of these have been known to be caught with an Angle, unless it were one that was caught by Sir *George Hastings*, an excellent Angler, and now with God; and he hath told me, he thought that Trout bit not for hunger but wantonness; and it is the rather to be believed, because both he then, and many others before him, have been curious to search into their bellies, what the food was by which they lived; and have found out nothing by which they might satisfie their curiosity.

Concerning which you are to take notice, that it is reported by good Authors, that grashoppers * and some Fish have no mouths, but are

* It is said by naturalists, that the Grashopper has no mouth, but a pipe in his breast, through which it sucks the dew, which is its nutriment. There are two sorts, the green and the dun; some say there is a third, of a yellowish green. They are found in long grass, from *June* to the end of *September*, and even in *October*, if the weather be mild. In the middle of *May* you will see in the joints of Rosemary, Thistles, and almost all the larger Weeds, a white, fermented froth, which the country people call *Cuckow's Spit*; in these the eggs of the Grashopper are deposited; and if you examine them, you shall never fail of finding a yellowish insect, of about the size and shape of a grain of wheat, which, doubtless, is the young Grashopper.

nourished

nouriſhed and take breath by the porouſneſs of their Gills, Man knows not how; and this may be believed, if we conſider that when the Raven hath hatched her eggs, ſhe takes no farther care, but leaves her young ones to the care of the God of nature, who is ſaid in the *Pſalms*, "To "feed the young Ravens that call upon him." And they be kept alive, and feed by a dew, or worms that breed in their neſts, or ſome other ways that we mortals know not; and this may be believed of the *Fordidge* Trout, which as it is ſaid of the Stork, that he knows his ſeaſon, ſo he knows his times, I think almoſt his day of coming into that River out of the Sea, where he lives, and it is like, feeds nine months of the Year, and faſts three in the River of *Fordidge*. And you are to note, that thoſe Townſmen are very punctual in obſerving the time of beginning to fiſh for them; and boaſt much that their River affords a Trout, that exceeds all others. And juſt ſo does *Suſſex* boaſt of ſeveral fiſh; as namely, a *Shelſey* Cockle, a *Chicheſter* Lobſter, an *Arundel* Mullet, and an *Amerly* Trout.

And now for ſome confirmation of the *Fordidge* Trout: you are to know that this Trout is thought to eat nothing in the freſh water; and it may be the better believed, becauſe it is well known, that Swallows and Bats and Wagtails, which are called half-year birds, and not ſeen to flie in *England* for ſix months in the Year, but about *Michaelmas* leave us for a hotter Climate; yet ſome of them that have been left behind their fellows, have been found, many

View Sir Fran. Bacon, *Exper.* 899.

thou-

thouſands at a time, in hollow trees, or clay caves; where they have been obſerved to live and ſleep out the whole Winter without meat; and ſo *Albertus* * obſerves, that there is one kind of Frog that hath her mouth naturally ſhut up about the end of *Auguſt*, and that ſhe lives ſo all the Winter: and though it be ſtrange to ſome, yet it is known to too many among us to be doubted †.

See Topſel *of Frogs.*

And ſo much for theſe *Fordidge* Trouts, which never afford an Angler ſport, but either live their time of being in the freſh water, by their meat formerly gotten in the ſea, not unlike the Swallow or Frog, or by the vertue of the freſh water only; or as the bird of *Paradiſe*, and the Camelion are ſaid to live by the Sun and the Air.

There is alſo in *Northumberland* a Trout called a Bull-trout, of a much greater length and bigneſs, than any in theſe ſouthern parts: and there are in many rivers that relate to the ſea, Salmon Trouts, as much different from others, both in ſhape and in their ſpots, as we ſee ſheep in ſome countries differ one from another in their ſhape and bigneſs, and in the fineneſs of their wool: and certainly, as ſome paſtures breed larger ſheep, ſo do ſome Rivers, by reaſon of the ground over which they run, breed larger Trouts.

* *Albertus Magnus*, a *German Dominican*, and a very learned man: *Urban* IV. compelled him to accept of the Biſhoprick of *Ratisbon*. He wrote a treatiſe on the ſecrets of nature, and twenty other volumes in folio; and died at *Cologne* 1280.

† See Chap. viii.

Now

Now the next thing that I will commend to your conſideration is, that the Trout is of a more ſudden growth than other Fiſh: concerning which you are alſo to take notice, that he lives not ſo long as the Pearch and divers other Fiſhes do, as Sir *Francis Bacon* hath obſerved in his hiſtory of life and death.

And next you are to take notice, that he is not like the Crocodile, which if he lives never ſo long, yet always thrives till his death: but 'tis not ſo with the Trout; for after he is come to his full growth, he declines in his body, and keeps his bigneſs or thrives only in his head till his death. And you are to know, that he will about, eſpecially before the time of his Spawning, get almoſt miraculouſly through Weires, and Floud-gates againſt the ſtreams; even through ſuch high and ſwift places as is almoſt incredible. Next, that the Trout uſually ſpawns about *October* or *November*, but in ſome Rivers a little ſooner or later: which is the more obſervable, becauſe moſt other fiſh ſpawn in the ſpring or ſummer, when the ſun hath warmed both the earth and water, and made it fit for generation. And you are to note, that he continues many months out of ſeaſon: for it may be obſerved of the Trout, that he is like the Buck or the Ox, that will not be fat in many months, though he go in the very ſame paſture that horſes do, which will be fat in one month; and ſo you may obſerve, that moſt other fiſhes recover ſtrength, and grow ſooner fat and in ſeaſon, than the Trout doth.

And next, you are to note, that till the ſun gets to ſuch a height as to warm the earth and the

the water, the Trout is ſick and lean, and lowſie, and unwholſom: for you ſhall in winter find him to have a big head, and then to be lank, and thin, and lean; at which time many of them have ſticking on them ſugs, or Trout-lice, which is a kind of a worm, in ſhape like a clove or pin with a big head, and ſticks cloſe to him and ſucks his moiſture; thoſe, I think, the Trout breeds himſelf, and never thrives till he free himſelf from them, which is when warm weather comes; and then, as he grows ſtronger, he gets from the dead, ſtill water, into the ſharp ſtreams, and the gravel, and there rubs off theſe worms or lice; and then, as he grows ſtronger, ſo he gets him into ſwifter and ſwifter ſtreams, and there lies at the watch for any flie or Minnow, that comes near to him; and he eſpecially loves the May-Flie, which is bred of the Cod-Worm, or Cadis*; and theſe make the Trout bold and luſty, and he is uſually fatter and better meat at the end of that month, than at any time of the year.

Now you are to know, that it is obſerved, that uſually the beſt Trouts are either red or yellow; though ſome, as the *Fordidge* Trout, be white and yet good; but that is not uſual: and

* This is thought to be a miſtake, and that the Cod-Worm, or Cadis, produces a very different fly, called the Cadis-Fly, which is thus deſcribed: It is a large yellow fly; has four pale yellow wings all of one colour; his body is of a pale yellow, ribbed with a dark brown. But the May-Fly, which I could never underſtand to be any other than the Green-Drake, is encloſed, when in embryo, in a longer, and much ſmaller huſk than the Cadis-Fly abovementioned. See *the Art of Angling and Complete Fly-Fiſher*, by *Richard Bowlker*, printed at *Worceſter*, in 12mo.

it

it is a note obſervable, that the female Trout hath uſually a leſs head, and a deeper body than the male Trout; and is uſually the better meat: and note, that a hog-back, and a little head to either Trout, Salmon, or any other fiſh, is a ſign that that fiſh is in ſeaſon.

But yet you are to note, that as you ſee ſome willows or palm-trees bud and bloſſom ſooner than others do, ſo ſome Trouts be in Rivers ſooner in ſeaſon: and as ſome hollies or oaks are longer before they caſt their leaves, ſo are ſome Trouts in Rivers longer before they go out of ſeaſon.

And you are to note, that there are ſeveral kinds of Trouts, but theſe ſeveral kinds are not conſidered but by very few men, for they go under the general name of Trouts; juſt as Pigeons do in moſt places; though it is certain there are tame, and wild Pigeons: and of the tame, there be Helmits and Runts, and Carriers and Cropers, and indeed too many to name. Nay, the Royal Society have found and publiſhed lately, that there be thirty and three kinds of Spiders: and yet all, for aught I know, go under that one general name of Spider. And 'tis ſo with many kinds of fiſh, and of Trouts eſpecially, which differ in their bigneſs and ſhape, and ſpots and colour. The great *Kentiſh* Hens may be an inſtance compared to other Hens; and doubtleſs there is a kind of ſmall Trout, which will never thrive to be big, that breeds very many more than others do, that be of a larger ſize; which you may rather believe, if you conſider, that the little Wren and Titmouſe will have twenty young ones at a time, when uſually the noble Hawk, or the muſical Thraſſel or Black-bird, exceed not four or five.

And

And now you ſhall ſee me try my ſkill to catch a Trout, and at my next walking either this evening, or to-morrow morning I will give you direction, how you yourſelf ſhall fiſh for him.

Ven. Truſt me, Maſter, I ſee now it is a harder matter to catch a Trout than a Chub: for I have put on patience, and followed you theſe two hours, and not ſeen a fiſh ſtir, neither at your Minnow nor your Worm.

Piſc. Well Scholar, you muſt endure worſe luck ſometime, or you will never make a good Angler. But what ſay you now? there is a Trout now, and a good one too, if I can but hold him, and two or three turns more will tire him: Now you ſee he lies ſtill, and the ſleight is to land him: reach me that landing-net: ſo, Sir, now he is mine own, what ſay you now? is not this worth all my labour and your patience.

Ven. On my word, Maſter, this is a gallant Trout, what ſhall we do with him?

Piſc. Marry, e'en eat him to ſupper: we'll go to my Hoſteſs, from whence we came; ſhe told me, as I was going out of door, that my brother *Peter*, a good Angler and a chearful companion, had ſent word he would lodge there to night, and bring a friend with him. My Hoſteſs has two beds, and I know, you and I may have the beſt: we'll rejoice with my brother *Peter* and his friend, tell tales, or ſing ballads, or make a catch, or find ſome harmleſs ſport to content us, and paſs away a little time without offence to God or man.

Ven. A match, good Maſter, let's go to that houſe, for the linnen looks white, and ſmells of laven-

lavender, and I long to lie in a pair of ſheets that ſmell ſo: let's be going, good Maſter, for I am hungry again with fiſhing.

Piſc. Nay, ſtay a little, good Scholar; I caught my laſt Trout with a Worm, now I will put on a Minnow and try a quarter of an hour about yonder trees for another, and ſo walk towards our lodging. Look you, Scholar, thereabout we ſhall have a bite preſently, or not at all: have with you Sir! o' my word I have hold of him. Oh it is a great logger-headed Chub; come, hang him upon that willow twig, and let's be going. But turn out of the way a little, good Scholar, towards yonder high honyſuckle hedg; there we'll ſit and ſing whilſt this ſhower falls ſo gently upon the teeming earth, and gives yet a ſweeter ſmell to the lovely flowers that adorn theſe verdant meadows.

Look, under the broad beech-tree, I ſate down, when I was laſt this way a fiſhing, and the birds in the adjoyning grove ſeemed to have a friendly contention with an eccho, whoſe dead voice ſeemed to live in a hollow tree, near to the brow of that primroſe-hill; there I ſate viewing the ſilver ſtreams glide ſilently towards their center, the tempeſtuous ſea; yet ſometimes oppoſed by rugged roots, and pebble-ſtones, which broke their waves, and turned them into foam: and ſometimes I beguiled time by viewing the harmleſs lambs, ſome leaping ſecurely in the cool ſhade, whilſt others ſported themſelves in the chearful ſun; and ſaw others craving comfort from the ſwoln udders of their bleating dams. As I thus ſate, theſe and other ſights had ſo fully poſſeſt

poſſeſt my ſoul with content, that I thought as the poet has happily expreſt it;

I was for that time lifted above earth;
And poſſeſt joys not promis'd in my birth,

As I left this place, and entred into the next field, a ſecond pleaſure entertained me; 'twas a handſom milk-maid that had not yet attained ſo much age and wiſdom as to load her mind with any fears of many things that will never be, as too many men too often do; but ſhe caſt away all care, and ſung like a Nightingale: her voice was good, and the ditty fitted for it; 'twas that ſmooth ſong, which was made by *Kit. Marlow*, now at leaſt fifty years ago: and the milk-maid's mother ſung an anſwer to it, which was made by Sir *Walter Raleigh* in his younger days.

They were old-faſhioned Poetry, but choicely good, I think much better than the ſtrong lines that are now in faſhion in this critical age. Look yonder! on my word, yonder they both be a milking again. I will give her the Chub, and perſwade them to ſing thoſe two ſongs to us.

God ſpeed you, good woman, I have been a fiſhing, and am going to *Bleak-Hall* * to my bed, and having caught more fiſh than will ſup myſelf and my friend, I will beſtow this upon you and your daughter, for I uſe to ſell none.

Milk-w. Marry God requite you, Sir, and we'll eat it chearfully; and if you come this way a

* The author ſeems here to have forgot himſelf; for, Page 53, he ſays he is to lodge at *Trout-Hall*.

fiſhing

fiſhing two months hence, a grace of God I'll give you a ſillabub of new verjuice in a new made hay-cock for it, and my *Maudlin* ſhall ſing you one of her beſt ballads; for ſhe and I both love all Anglers, they be ſuch honeſt, civil, quiet men *, in the mean time will you drink a draught of Red-cows milk, you ſhall have it freely.

Piſc. No, I thank you, but I pray do us a courteſie that ſhall ſtand you and your daughter in nothing, and yet we will think ourſelves ſtill ſomething in your debt; it is but to ſing us a ſong, that was ſung by your daughter, when I laſt paſt over this Meadow, about eight or nine days ſince.

Milk-w. What ſong was it, I pray? was it, *Come Shepherds deck your herds*, or, *As at noon* Dulcinea *reſted*; or, Phillida *flouts me:* or, *Chevy Chace?* or, *Jonny Armſtrong?* or, *Troy Town?*

Piſc. No, it is none of thoſe: it is a ſong, that your daughter ſung the firſt part, and you ſung the anſwer to it.

* There are ſome few exceptions to this character of Anglers: the greateſt and moſt wonderful revolution that ever happened in any ſtate, was brought about by an *Angler*; I mean that in *Naples*, in the year 1647; concerning which we are told, That "a young man, about twenty-four, happened to be in a corner of the great market-place at *Naples*, a ſprightly man, of a middle ſtature, black-eyed, rather lean than fat, having a ſmall tuft of hair; he wore linen ſlops, a blue waiſtcoat, and went barefoot, with a mariner's cap; but he was of a good countenance, ſtout and lively as could be. His profeſſion was to *angle for little* fiſh with a *cane*, *hook*, and *line*. His name was *Tomaſo Anello*, of *Amalfi*, but vulgarly called *Maſaniello*." See the hiſtory of the revolution in *Naples*, by Sig. *Aleſſandro Giraffi*.

Milk-w. O, I know it now, I learned the firſt part in my golden age, when I was about the age of my poor daughter; and the latter part, which indeed fits me beſt now, but two or three years ago, when the cares of the world began to take hold of me: but you ſhall, God willing, hear them both, and ſung as well as we can, for we both love Anglers. Come *Maudlin*, ſing the firſt part to the gentlemen with a merry heart, and I'll ſing the ſecond, when you have done.

The MILK-MAID'S SONG.

COME live with me, and be my Love,
And we will all the pleaſures prove
That valleys, groves, or hills, or field,
Or woods, and ſteepy mountains yield.

Where we will ſit upon the Rocks,
And ſee the Shepherds feed our flocks,
By ſhallow Rivers, to whoſe falls,
Melodious birds ſing Madrigals.

And I will make thee beds of Roſes,
And then a thouſand fragrant Poſies,
A Cap of flowers, and a Kirtle
Embroider'd all with leaves of Mirtle.

A Gown made of the fineſt Wool,
Which from our pretty Lambs we pull;
Slippers lin'd choicely for the cold,
With buckles of the pureſt gold.

A

Plate III. to Front Page 76.

J. Wale Inv. Ryland Sc.

Pub.d According to Act of Parliam.t 1759.

A belt of Straw, and Ivy-buds,
With coral claſps and amber ſtuds;
And if theſe pleaſures may thee move,
Come live with me and be my Love.

Thy ſilver diſhes for thy meat,
As precious as the Gods do eat,
Shall on an Ivory Table be
Prepar'd each day for thee and me.

The Shepherd-Swains ſhall dance and ſing,
For thy delight each May-*morning:*
If theſe delights thy mind may move,
Then live with me, and be my Love *.

Ven. Truſt me, Maſter, it is a choice Song, and ſweetly ſung by honeſt *Maudlin.* I now ſee it was not without cauſe, that our good Queen *Elizabeth* did ſo often wiſh herſelf a Milk-maid all the month of *May*, becauſe they are not troubled with fears and cares, but ſing ſweetly all the day, and ſleep ſecurely all the night: and without doubt, honeſt, innocent, pretty *Maudlin* does ſo. I'll beſtow Sir *Thomas Overbury*'s Milk-maid's wiſh upon her, "That ſhe may dye in "the Spring, and being dead may have good

* Dr. *Warburton*, in his notes on *The merry wives of* Windſor, aſcribes this ſong to *Shakeſpeare:* 'Tis true, Sir *Hugh Evans*, in the third act of that play, ſings four lines of it; and it is printed in a collection of poems ſaid to be *Shakeſpeare*'s, publiſhed between twenty and thirty years after his death; but the authority of that collection has ever been queſtioned. On the contrary, *Walton* has juſt ſaid it was made by *Kit Marlow*, a poet well known at that Time. The reader will judge of theſe authorities as he pleaſes.

" ſtore of flowers ſtuck round about her winding " ſheet *."

The MILK-MAID's MOTHER's Anſwer.

IF all the world and love were young,
And truth in every Shepherd's tongue,
Theſe pretty pleaſures might me move
To live with thee, and be thy Love.

But time drives flocks from field to fold,
When Rivers rage, and rocks grow cold,
Then Philomel *becometh dumb,*
And age complains of care to come.

The flowers do fade, and wanton fields
To wayward Winter reckoning yields,
A hony tongue, a heart of gall,
Is fancy's ſpring, but ſorrow's fall;

Thy gowns, thy ſhoes, thy beds of roſes,
Thy cap, thy kirtle, and thy poſies,
Soon break, ſoon wither, ſoon forgotten,
In folly ripe, in reaſon rotten.

Thy Belt of Straw, and Ivy-buds,
Thy Coral claſps, and Amber Studs,
All theſe in me no means can move
To come to thee, and be thy Love.

What ſhould we talk of dainties then,
Of better meat than's fit for men?

* Sir *Thomas Overbury*'s *Character of a fair and happy Milk-maid*, printed with his *Life*, in 12mo. 1655.

Theſe

These are but vain: that's only good
Which God hath bleſt, and ſent for food.

But could Youth laſt, and love ſtill breed,
Had joys no date, nor age no need;
Then thoſe delights my mind might move,
To live with thee, and be thy Love.

Mother. Well, I have done my ſong; but ſtay, honeſt Anglers, for I will make *Maudlin* to ſing you one ſhort ſong more. *Maudlin*, ſing that ſong that you ſung laſt night, when young *Corydon* the Shepherd plaid ſo purely on his oaten pipe to you and your Cozen *Betty*.

Maud. I will, Mother.

I Married a Wife of late,
The more's my unhappy fate:
I married her for love,
As my fancy did me move,
And not for a worldly eſtate:

But Oh! the green-ſickneſs
Soon changed her likeneſs;
And all her beauty did fail.
But 'tis not ſo,
With thoſe that go,
Through froſt and ſnow,
As all men know,
And carry the milking-pail.

Piſc. Well ſung, good Woman; I thank you; I'll give you another diſh of fiſh one of theſe days, and then beg another ſong of you. Come, Scholar, let *Maudlin* alone; do not you offer to

ſpoil her voice. Look, yonder comes mine Hoſteſs, to call us to ſupper. How now; is my Brother *Peter* come?

Hoſteſs. Yes, and a friend with him; they are both glad to hear that you are in theſe parts, and long to ſee you, and long to be at ſupper, for they be very hungry.

CHAP. V.

More directions how to fiſh for, and how to make for the TROUT *an* Artificial Minnow, *and* Flies, *with ſome merriment.*

PISCATOR.

WELL met, Brother *Peter*; I hear you and a friend would lodge here to night, and that hath made me to bring my friend to lodge here too. My friend is one that would fain be a Brother of the Angle; he hath been an Angler but this day, and I have taught him how to catch a Chub by daping with a Graſs-hopper, and the Chub he caught was a luſty one of nineteen inches long. But pray, Brother *Peter*, who is your companion?

Peter. Brother *Piſcator*, my friend is an honeſt Country-man, and his name is *Corydon*, and he is a downright witty companion, that met me here purpoſely to be pleaſant and eat a Trout, and I have not yet wetted my line ſince we met together; but I hope to fit him with a Trout for his breakfaſt, for I'll be early up.

Piſc.

Pisc. Nay brother, you shall not stay so long: for look you here is a

TROUT

will fill six reasonable bellies. Come Hostess, dress it presently, and get us what other meat the house will afford, and give us some of your best Barly-wine, the good liquor that our honest forefathers did use to drink of; the drink which preserved their health, and made them live so long, and to do so many good deeds.

Peter. O'my word this Trout is perfect in season. Come, I thank you, and here is a hearty draught to you, and to all the brothers of the Angle wheresoever they be, and to my young brother's good fortune to morrow: I will furnish him with a rod, if you will furnish him with the rest of the tackling; we will set him up and make him a Fisher.

And I will tell him one thing for his encouragement, that his fortune hath made him happy to be scholar to such a master; a master that

knows as much both of the nature and breeding of fiſh as any man: and can alſo tell him as well how to catch and cook them, from the Minnow to the Salmon, as any that I ever met withall.

Piſc. Truſt me, brother *Peter*, I find my ſcholar to be ſo ſutable to my own humour, which is to be free and pleaſant, and civilly merry, that my reſolution is to hide nothing that I know from him. Believe me, ſcholar, this is my reſolution; and ſo here's to you a hearty draught, and to all that love us, and the honeſt art of Angling.

Ven. Truſt me, good maſter, you ſhall not ſow your ſeed in barren ground, for I hope to return you an increaſe anſwerable to your hopes; but however you ſhall find me obedient, and thankful, and ſerviceable to my beſt abilitie.

Piſc. 'Tis enough, honeſt ſcholar, come let's to ſupper. Come my friend *Coridon* this Trout looks lovely, it was twenty two inches when it was taken, and the belly of it looked ſome part of it as yellow as a Marigold, and part of it as white as a lilly, and yet methinks it looks better in this good ſawce.

Cor. Indeed honeſt friend, it looks well, and taſtes well, I thank you for it, and ſo doth my friend *Peter*, or elſe he is to blame.

Pet. Yes, and ſo I do, we all thank you, and when we have ſupped, I will get my friend *Coridon* to ſing you a ſong for requital.

Cor. I will ſing a ſong, if any body will ſing another; elſe, to be plain with you, I will ſing none: I am none of thoſe that ſing for meat, but for company: I ſay, *'Tis merry in Hall, when men ſing all.*

Piſc.

Piſc. I'll promiſe you I'll ſing a ſong that was lately made at my requeſt, by Mr. *William Baſſe*, one that hath made the choice ſongs of the *Hunter in his cariere*, and of *Tom of Bedlam*, and many others of note; and this that I will ſing is in praiſe of Angling.

Cor. And then mine ſhall be the praiſe of a country-man's life: What will the reſt ſing of?

Pet. I will promiſe you, I will ſing another ſong in praiſe of Angling to-morrow night, for we will not part till then, but fiſh to-morrow, and ſup together, and the next day every man leave fiſhing, and fall to his buſineſſe.

Venat. 'Tis a match, and I will provide you a ſong or a catch againſt then too, which ſhall give ſome addition of mirth to the company; for we will be civil and as merry as beggars.

Piſc. 'Tis a match my maſters, let's ev'n ſay grace, and turn to the fire, drink the other cup to wet our whiſtles, and ſo ſing away all ſad thoughts.

Come on my maſters, who begins? I think it is beſt to draw cuts, and avoid contention.

Pet. It is a match. Look, the ſhorteſt cut falls to *Coridon*.

Cor. Well then, I will begin, for I hate contention.

CORIDON'S SONG.

OH the ſweet contentment
The countryman doth find!
high trololie lollie loe
high trololie lollie lee,
That quiet contemplation
Poſſeſſeth all my mind:

Then

Then care away,
And wend along with me.

For Courts are full of flattery,
As hath too oft been tried;
high trololie lollie loe, &c.
The City full of wantonneſs,
And both are full of pride:
Then care away, &c.

But oh the honeſt Countryman
Speaks truely from his heart,
high trololie lollie loe, &c.
His pride is in his tillage,
His horſes, and his cart:
Then care away, &c.

Our cloathing is good ſheep-ſkins,
Gray ruſſet for our wives,
high trololie lollie loe, &c.
'Tis warmth and not gay cloathing
That doth prolong our lives:
Then care away, &c,

The ploughman, though he labour hard,
Yet on the Holy-Day,
high trololie lollie loe, &c.
No Emperour ſo merrily
Does paſſe his time away:
Then care away, &c.

To recompence our tillage,
The Heavens afford us ſhowers;
high trololie lollie loe, &c.
And for our ſweet refreſhments
The earth affords us bowers:
Then care away, &c.

The

The Cuckow and the Nightingale
Full merrily do ſing,
high trololie lollie loe, &c.
And with their pleaſant roundelaies
Bid welcome to the Spring.
Then care away, &c.

This is not half the happineſs
The country-man enjoyes;
high trololie lollie loe, &c.
Though others think they have as much,
Yet he that ſays ſo lies:
Then come away, turn
Countryman with me.

JO. CHALKHILL *.

Piſc. Well ſung *Coridon*, this ſong was ſung with mettle; and it was choicely fitted to the occaſion; I ſhall love you for it as long as I know you; I would you were a Brother of the Angle, for a companion that is chearful, and free from ſwearing and ſcurrilous diſcourſe, is worth gold. I love ſuch mirth as does not make friends aſhamed to look upon one another next morning; nor men that cannot well bear it to repent the money they ſpend when they be warmed with drink: and take this for a rule, you may pick out ſuch times and ſuch companies, that you may make yourſelves merrier for a little than a great deal of money; for "'Tis the company and not "the charge that makes the feaſt": and ſuch a companion you prove, I thank you for it.

* *John Chalkhill*, Eſq; of whom mention is made in the author's life.

But

But I will not complement you out of the debt that I owe you, and therefore I will begin my Song and wish it may be so well liked.

The ANGLER's SONG.

AS inward love breeds outward talk;
The Hound some praise, and some the Hawk:
Some better pleas'd with private sport.
Use Tennis, some a Mistress court:
But these delights I neither wish,
Nor envy, while I freely fish.

Who Hunts, doth oft in danger ride;
Who Hawks, lures oft both far and wide;
Who uses Games shall often prove
A loser; but who falls in love,
Is fettered in fond Cupid's *snare:*
My Angle breeds me no such care.

Of Recreation there is none
So free as Fishing is alone;
All other pastimes do no less
Than mind and body both possesse:
My hand alone my work can doe,
So I can fish and study too.

I care not, I, to fish in seas,
Fresh rivers best my mind do please,
Whose sweet calm course I contemplate,
And seek in life to imitate:
In civil bounds I fain would keep,
And for my past offences weep.

And

And when the timorous Trout I wait
Too take, and he devours my bait,
How poor a thing ſometimes I find
Will captivate a greedy mind:
And when none bite, I praiſe the wiſe,
Whom vain allurements ne'er ſurpriſe.

But yet though while I fiſh I faſt;
I make good fortune my repaſt,
And thereunto my friend invite,
In whom I more than that delight:
Who is more welcome to my diſh,
Than to my angle was my fiſh.

As well content no prize to take,
As uſe of taken prize to make:
For ſo our Lord was pleaſed when
He fiſhers made fiſhers of men:
Where, which is in no other game,
A man may fiſh and praiſe his name.

The firſt men that our Saviour dear
Did chuſe to wait upon him here,
Bleſt Fiſhers were, and fiſh the laſt
Food was, that he on earth did taſte.
I therefore ſtrive to follow thoſe,
Whom he to follow him hath choſe.

Cor. Well ſung brother, you have paid your debt in good coin; we Anglers are all beholding to the good man that made this Song. Come Hoſteſs, give us more Ale, and let's drink to him.

And

And now let's every one go to bed that we may riſe early; but firſt let's pay our reckoning, for I will have nothing to hinder me in the morning; for my purpoſe is to prevent the Sun-riſing.

Pet. A match; Come, *Coridon*, you are to be my bed-fellow: I know, brother, you and your Scholar will lie together; but where ſhall we meet to-morrow night; for my friend *Coridon* and I will go up the water towards *Ware*.

Piſc. And my ſcholar and I will go down towards *Waltham*.

Cor. Then let's meet here; for here are freſh ſheets that ſmell of Lavender, and I am ſure we cannot expect better meat, or better uſage in any place.

Pet. 'Tis a match. Good night to every body.

Piſc. And ſo ſay I.

Venat. And ſo ſay I.

Piſc. Good morrow good Hoſteſs, I ſee my brother *Peter* is ſtill in bed: Come give my Scholar and me a morning-drink, and a bit of meat to breakfaſt, and be ſure to get a good diſh of meat or two againſt ſupper, for we ſhall come home as hungry as Hawks. Come, Scholar, let's be going.

Venat. Well now, good Maſter, as we walk towards the River give me direction, according to your promiſe, how I ſhall fiſh for a Trout.

Piſc. My honeſt Scholar, I will take this very convenient opportunity to do it.

The Trout is uſually caught with a worm or a Minnow, which ſome call a Penk, or with a flie, *viz.* either a natural or an artificial flie: concern-

ning

ing which three I will give you ſome obſervations and directions.

And firſt for worms: of theſe there be very many ſorts, ſome breed only in the earth, as the Earth-worm, others of or amongſt plants, as the Dug-worm; and others breed either out of excrements, or in the bodies of living creatures, as in the horns of Sheep or Deer; or ſome of dead fleſh, as the Maggot or Gentle, and others.

Now theſe be moſt of them particularly good for particular fiſhes: but for the Trout, the Dew-worm, which ſome alſo call the Lob-worm, and the Brandling, are the chief; and eſpecially the firſt for a great Trout, and the latter for a leſs. There be alſo of Lob-worms ſome called ſquirrel-tailes, a worm that has a red head, a ſtreak down the back and a broad tail, which are noted to be the beſt, becauſe they are the tougheſt and moſt lively, and live longeſt in the water: for you are to know, that a dead worm is but a dead bait, and like to catch nothing, compared to a lively, quick ſtirring worm: and for a Brandling, he is uſually found in an old dunghill, or ſome very rotten place near to it: but moſt uſually in Cow dung, or Hog's-dung, rather than Horſe-dung, which is ſomewhat too hot and dry for that worm. But the beſt of them are to be found in the bark of the Tanners, which they caſt up in heaps after they have uſed it about their leather.

There are alſo divers other kinds of worms, which for colour and ſhape alter even as the ground out of which they are got, as the marſh-worm, the tag-tail, the flag-worm, the dock-worm, the oak-worm, the gilt-tail, the twachel

or

or lob-worm *, which of all others is the moſt excellent bait for a Salmon, and too many to name, even as many ſorts as ſome think there be of ſeveral herbs or ſhrubs, or of ſeveral kinds of birds in the air; of which I ſhall ſay no more, but tell you, that what worms ſoever you fiſh with, are the better for being well ſcowred, that is, long kept before they be uſed: and in caſe you have not been ſo provident, then the way to cleanſe and ſcowr them quickly, is to put them all night in water, if they be lob-worms, and then put them into your bag with fennel; but you muſt not put your brandlings above an hour in water, and then put them into fennel for ſudden uſe: but if you have time, and purpoſe to keep them long, then they be beſt preſerved in an earthen pot with good ſtore of moſſe, which

* To avoid confuſion, it may be neceſſary to remark, that the ſame kind of worm is, in different places, known by different names: thus the Marſh and the Meadow-Worm, are the ſame; and the Lob-Worm, or Twachel, is alſo called the Dew-Worm, and the Garden-Worm, and the Dock-Worm, is, in ſome places, called the Flag-Worm.

The *Tag-Tail* is found in *March* and *April*, in marled lands, or meadows, after a ſhower of rain, or in a morning, when the weather is calm, and not cold.

To find the *Oak-Worm*, beat on an Oak-Tree, that grows over a highway or bare place, and they will fall for you to gather.

To find the *Dock-Worm*, go to an old pond, or pit, and pull up ſome of the flags; ſhake the roots in the water, and amongſt the fibres that grow from the roots you will find little huſks, or caſes, of a reddiſh or yellowiſh colour; open theſe carefully with a pin, and take from thence a little worm, pale and yellow, or white, like a Gentle, but longer and ſlenderer, with rows of feet down his belly, and a red head: this is the Dock or Flag-Worm. An excellent bait for Grayling, Tench, Bream, Carp, Roach and Dace.

is to be freſh every three or four days in ſummer, and every week or eight days in winter; or at leaſt the moſſe taken from them, and clean waſhed, and wrung betwixt your hands till it be dry, and then put it to them again. And when your worms, eſpecially the brandling, begins to be ſick and loſe of his bigneſs, then you may recover him, by putting a little milk or cream, about a ſpoonful in a day, into them by drops on the moſſe; and if there be added to the cream an egg beaten and boiled in it, then it will both fatten and preſerve them long *. And note, that when the knot, which is near to the middle of the brandling, begins to ſwell, then he is ſick, and, if he be not well looked to, is near dying. And for moſſe, you are to note, that there be divers kinds of it †, which I could name to you, but will only tell you, that that which is likeſt a buck's-horn is the beſt, except it be ſoft white moſſe, which grows on ſome heaths, and is hard to be found. And note, that in a very dry time, when you are put to an extremity for worms, walnut-tree leaves ſqueezed into water, or ſalt

* The following is alſo an excellent way, viz. Take a piece of hop-ſack, or other very coarſe cloth, and waſh it clean, and let it dry; then wet it in the liquor wherein beef has been boiled; but be careful that the beef is freſh, for ſalt will kill the worms, and wring it, but not quite dry; put the worms into this cloth, and lay them in an earthen pot, and let them ſtand from morning 'till night; then take the worms from the cloth, and waſh it, and wet it again in ſome of the liquor: do thus once a day, and you may keep worms in perfect health, and fit for uſe, for near a month.

Obſerve that the Lob-worm, Marſh-worm, and Red-worm, will bear more ſcouring than any others, and are better for long keeping.

† Naturaliſts reckon above two hundred.

in water, to make it bitter or ſalt, and then that water poured on the ground, where you ſhall ſee worms are uſed to riſe in the night, will make them to appear above ground preſently. And you may take notice, ſome ſay that camphire put into your bag with your moſſe and worms, gives them a ſtrong and ſo tempting a ſmell, that the fiſh fare the worſe and you the better for it.

And now I ſhall ſhew you how to bait your hook with a worm, ſo as ſhall prevent you from much trouble, and the loſs of many a hook too, when you fiſh for a Trout with a running line *, that is to ſay, when you fiſh for him by hand at the ground: I will direct you in this as plainly as I can, that you may not miſtake.

Suppoſe it be a big Lob-worm, put your hook into him ſomewhat above the middle, and out again a little below the middle: having ſo done, draw your worm above the arming of your hook; but note, that at the entring of your hook it muſt not be at the head-end of the worm, but at the tail-end of him, that the point of your hook may come out toward the head-end, and

* The Running-Line, ſo called becauſe it runs along the ground, is made of ſtrong ſilk, which you may buy at the Fiſhing-tackle ſhops, but I prefer hair, as being leſs apt to tangle, and is thus fitted up: About ten inches from the end faſten a ſmall cleft ſhot; then make a hole through a piſtol or muſket-bullet, according to the ſwiftneſs of the ſtream you fiſh in, and put the line through it, and draw the bullet down to the ſhot: to the end of your line faſten an *Indian* graſs, or Silk-Worm-gut with a large hook: or you may, inſtead of a bullet, fix four large ſhot, at the diſtance of eight inches from the hook. The Running-Line is uſed for Trout, Grayling, and Salmon-Smelts; and is proper only for ſtreams and rapid waters. See Part II. Chap. 11.

having

having drawn him above the arming of your hook, then put the point of your hook again into the very head of the worm, till it come near to the place where the point of the hook firſt came out; and then draw back that part of the worm that was above the ſhank or arming of your hook, and ſo fiſh with it. And if you mean to fiſh with two worms, then put the ſecond on before you turn back the hook's-head of the firſt worm; you cannot loſe above two or three worms before you attain to what I direct you; and having attained it, you will find it very uſeful, and thank me for it; for you will run on the ground without tangling.

Now for the Minnow or Penk; he is not eaſily found and caught till *March*, or in *April*, for then he appears firſt in the river, nature having taught him to ſhelter and hide himſelf in the winter in ditches that be near to the river, and there both to hide and keep himſelf warm in the mud or in the weeds, which rot not ſo ſoon as in a running river, in which place if he were in winter, the diſtempered floods that are uſually in that ſeaſon, would ſuffer him to take no reſt, but carry him head-long to Mills and Weires to his confuſion. And of theſe Minnows, firſt you are to know, that the biggeſt ſize is not the beſt; and next, that the middle ſize and the whiteſt are the beſt: and then you are to know, that your Minnow muſt be ſo put on your hook that it muſt turn round when 'tis drawn againſt the ſtream, and that it may turn nimbly, you muſt put it on a big-ſized hook as I ſhall now direct you, which is thus. Put your hook in at his mouth and out at his gill, then having drawn your hook two or three inches beyond or through his gill, put it again

into his mouth, and the point and beard out at his tail, and then tie the hook and his tail about very neatly with a white thread, which will make it the apter to turn quick in the water: that done, pull back that part of your line which was ſlack when you did put your hook into the Minnow the ſecond time: I ſay pull that part of your line back ſo that it ſhall faſten the head, ſo that the body of the Minnow ſhall be almoſt ſtrait on your hook; this done, try how it will turn by drawing it croſs the water or againſt a ſtream, and if it do not turn nimbly, then turn the tail a little to the right or left hand, and try again, till it turn quick; for if not, you are in danger to catch nothing; for know, that it is impoſſible that it ſhould turn too quick: and you are yet to know, that in caſe you want a Minnow, then a ſmall Loach or a Stickle-bag, or any other ſmall fiſh that will turn quick, will ſerve as well: And you are yet to know, that you may ſalt them, and by that means keep them ready and fit for uſe three or four days, or longer, and that of ſalt, bay-ſalt is the beſt.

And here let me tell you, what many old Anglers know right well, that at ſome times, and in ſome waters, a Minnow is not to be got, and therefore let me tell you, I have, which I will ſhew to you, an artificial Minnow, that will catch a Trout as well as an artificial Flie, and it was made by a handſome woman that had a fine hand, and a live Minnow lying by her: the mould or body of the Minnow was cloth, and wrought upon or over it thus with a needle: the back of it with very ſad *French* green ſilk, and paler green ſilk towards the belly, ſhadowed as perfectly as you can imagine, juſt as you ſee a Minnow;

Minnow; the belly was wrought alſo with a needle, and it was a part of it white ſilk, and another part of it with ſilver thread; the tail and fins were of a quill, which was ſhaven thin; the eyes were of two little black beads, and the head was ſo ſhadowed, and all of it ſo curiouſly wrought, and ſo exactly diſſembled, that it would beguile any ſharp-ſighted Trout in a ſwift ſtream. And this Minnow I will now ſhew you; look, here it is: and if you like it, lend it you, to have two or three made by it, for they be eaſily carried about an Angler, and be of excellent uſe; for note, that a large Trout will come as fiercely at a Minnow, as the higheſt mettled hawk doth ſeize on a Partridg, or a grey-hound on a hare. I have been told, that 160 Minnows have been found in a Trout's belly; either the Trout had devoured ſo many, or the miller that gave it a friend of mine had forced them down his throat after he had taken him.

Now for flies, which are the third bait wherewith Trouts are uſually taken. You are to know, that there are as many ſorts of flies as there be of fruits: I will name you but ſome of them, as the *dun-flie* the *ſtone-flie*, the *red-flie*, the *moor-flie*, the *tawny-flie*, the *ſhell-flie*, the *cloudy* or *black-flie*, the *flag-flie*, the *vine-flie*: there be of flies, *caterpillars*, and *canker-flies*, and *bear-flies*, and indeed too many either for me to name or for you to remember: and their breeding is ſo various and wonderful, that I might eaſily amaze myſelf, and tire you in a relation of them.

And yet I will exerciſe your promiſed patience by ſaying a little of the *caterpillar*,, or the *pal-*

mer-flie or worm, that by them you may gueſs what a work it were in a diſcourſe but to run over thoſe very many flies, worms, and little living creatures with which the ſun and ſummer adorn and beautify the river banks and meadows, both for the recreation and contemplation of us Anglers; pleaſures which, I think, myſelf enjoy more than any other man that is not of my profeſſion.

Pliny holds an opinion, that many have their birth or being from a dew that in the ſpring falls upon the leaves of trees; and that ſome kinds of them are from a dew left upon herbs or flowers; and others from a dew left upon coleworts or cabbages: All which kinds of dews being thickned and condenſed, are by the Sun's generative heat moſt of them hatched, and in three days made living creatures *; and theſe of ſeveral ſhapes and colours; ſome being hard and tough, ſome ſmooth and ſoft; ſome are horned in their head, ſome in their tail, ſome have none: ſome have hair, ſome none: ſome have ſixteen feet, ſome leſs, and ſome have none, but, as our *Topſel* hath, with great diligence, obſerved, thoſe which have none, move upon the earth, or upon broad leaves, their motion being not unlike to the waves of the ſea. Some of them he alſo obſerves to be bred of the eggs of other caterpillars, and that

In his hiſtory of Serpents.

* The doctrine of ſpontaneous or equivocal generation is now univerſally exploded; and all the *Phænomena* that ſeem to ſupport it, are accounted for on other principles. See *Derham's Phyſ. Theol.* Chap. 15 and the authorities there cited. As alſo, Mr. *Ray's Wiſdom of God manifeſted in the works of the creation.* 298. and *Franc. Redi de Gen. Inſect.*

thoſe

thoſe in their time turn to be butter-flies: and again, that their eggs turn the following year to be caterpillars *. And ſome affirm, that every plant has his particular flie or caterpillar, which it breeds and feeds. I have ſeen, and may therefore affirm it, a green caterpillar, or worm, as big as a ſmall peaſcod, which had fourteen legs; eight on the belly, four under the neck, and two near the tail. It was found on a hedge of privet, and was taken thence, and put into a large Box, and a little branch or two of privet put to it, on which I ſaw it feed as ſharply as a dog gnaws a bone: it lived thus five or ſix days, and thrived, and changed the colour two or three times, but by ſome neglect in the keeper of it, it then died and did not turn to a flie: but if it had lived, it had doubtleſs turned to one of thoſe flies that ſome call flies of prey, which thoſe that walk by the rivers may in ſummer, ſee faſten on ſmaller flies, and I think make them their food. And 'tis obſervable, that as there be theſe flies of prey which be very large, ſo there be others very little, created, I think, only to feed them, and breed out of I know not what; whoſe life, they ſay, Nature intended not to exceed an hour †, and yet

* Whoever is deſirous of knowing more of Caterpillars, and of the ſeveral Flies produced by them, may conſult *Joannes Goedartius de Inſectis*, with the Appendix of Dr. *Liſter*, *Lond.* 8*vo*, 1685.

† That there are creatures "whoſe life nature intended not "to exceed an hour," is, I believe, not ſo well agreed as that there are ſome whoſe exiſtence is determined in five or ſix. It is well known that the *Ephemeron*, that wonderful inſtance of the care and providence of God, lives but from ſix in the evening till about eleven at night; during which time it pe-

yet that life is thus made ſhorter by other flies, or accident.

'Tis

forms all the animal functions: for, in the beginning of its life, it ſheds its coat; and that being done, and the poor little animal thereby rendered light and agile, it ſpends the reſt of its ſhort time in friſking over the waters: the female drops her eggs, which are impregnated by the male: theſe being ſpread about, deſcend to the bottom by their own gravity, and are hatched by the warmth of the Sun into little worms, which make themſelves caſes in the clay, and feed on the ſame without any need of parental care. *Vide Ephem. Vita*, tranſlated by Dr. *Tyſon*, from *Swammerdam*. See alſo *Derh. Phyſ. Theol.* 247.

And to the truth of the aſſertion, that this animal ſheds its coat, I myſelf am a witneſs: for, being a fiſhing one ſummer evening, at about ſeven o'clock, I ſuddenly obſerved my cloaths covered with a number of very ſmall flies, of a whitiſh colour, inclining to blue: they continued fixed, while I obſerved thoſe on my left arm wriggle their bodies about, till at length they diſengaged themſelves from their external coat, which they left, and flew away; but what greatly aſtoniſhed me was, that the caſes to the three whiſks which each of thoſe creatures had at its tail, which were ſlenderer than the fineſt hair, and, but for their whiteneſs would have been ſcarce perceptible, were left as intire and unbroken as the leſs tender parts of the coat.

Similar to this is the relation in *Bowlker*, communicated to him by a gentleman, an accurate obſerver of nature's productions, concerning the fly called the *Grey Drake*; of which mention is made in *Cotton*'s *Liſt of Flies for* May; which relation I ſhall give in his own words.

" I happened to walk by the river ſide at that ſeaſon of " the year when the *May*-flies (he means the grey ſort) which " are a ſpecies of the *Libella*, come up out of the water; " where they lie in their Huſks, for a conſiderable time, at " the bottom or ſides of the river, near the likeneſs of the " Nymph of the ſmall common *Libella*; but when it is ma- " ture, it ſplits open its caſe, and then, with great agility, " up ſprings the new little animal, with a ſlender body, four " blackiſh veined tranſparent wings, with four black ſpots

" on

'Tis endleſs to tell you what the curious ſearchers into nature's productions have obſerved of theſe worms and flies: but yet I ſhall tell you what

" on the upper wings, and the under wings much ſmaller " than the upper ones, with three long hairs in its tail. The " huſks, which are left behind, float innumerable on the " water. It ſeemed to me a ſpecies of *Ephemeron*; and I " imagined it was the ſame inſect deſcribed by *Goedart* and " *Swammerdam*; but a few days convinced me to the contrary; for I ſoon found them to be of longer duration " than theirs. The firſt buſineſs of this creature, after he is " diſengaged from the water, is flying about to find out a " proper place to fix on, as trees, buſhes, *&c.* to wait for " another ſurprizing change, which is effected in two or " three days. The firſt hint I received of this wonderful " operation, was ſeeing the *Exuvia* hanging on a hedge: I " then collected a great many, and put them in boxes, and, " by ſtrictly obſerving them, I could tell when they were " ready to put off their cloaths, though but ſo lately put on. " I had the pleaſure to ſhew my friends one that I held on " my finger all the while it performed this great work. It " was ſurpriſing to ſee how eaſily the back part of the fly " ſplit open, and produced the new birth; which I could " not perceive partakes of any thing from its parent; but " leaves head, body, wings, legs, and even its three-haired " tail behind on the caſe. After it has repoſed itſelf awhile, " it flies, with great briſkneſs, to ſeek its mate. In the new " fly a remarkable difference is ſeen in their ſexes, which I " could not ſo eaſily perceive in their firſt ſtate, the male and " female being then much of a ſize; but now the male was " much the ſmalleſt, and the hairs in his tail much the longeſt. I was very careful to ſee if I could find them ingendering; but all that I could diſcover was, that the males " ſeparated, and kept under cover of the trees, remote from " the river; hither the females reſorted, and mixed with " them in their flight, great numbers together, with a very " briſk motion of darting or ſtriking at one another when " they met, with great vigour, juſt as houſe-flies will do in " a ſunny room: This they continued to do for many hours, " and this ſeemed to be their way of coition; which muſt be " quick, and ſoon performed, as they are of ſo ſhort a dura-

" tion.

what *Aldrovandus* *, our *Topſel*, and others ſay of the palmer-worm or caterpillar, that whereas others content themſelves to feed on particular

' tion. When the females were impregnated, they left the ' company of the males, and ſought the river, and kept ' conſtantly playing up and down on the water. It was ' very plainly ſeen, every time they darted down they ejected " a cluſter of eggs, which ſeemed a pale bluiſh ſpeck, " like a ſmall drop of milk, as they deſcended on the water; " then, by the help of their tail they ſpring up again, " and deſcend again; and thus continue till they have ex- " hauſted their ſtock of eggs, and ſpent their ſtrength, be- " ing ſo weak that they can riſe no more, but fall a prey to " the fiſh; but by much the greateſt numbers periſh on the " waters, which are covered with them: This is the end of " the females. But the males never reſort to the rivers, as I " could perceive; but, after they have done their office, " drop down, languiſh and die under the trees and buſhes. " I obſerved that the females were moſt numerous; which " was very neceſſary, conſidering the many enemies they " have, during the ſhort time of their appearance; for both " birds and fiſh are very fond of them; and, no doubt, " under the water, they are food for ſmall aquatick inſect. " What is further remarkable in this ſurprizing creature is, " that, in a life of a few days, it eats nothing, ſeems to have " no apparatus for that purpoſe; but brings up with it, out " of the water, ſufficient ſupport to enable it to ſhed its ſkin, " and perform the principal end of life with great vivacity. " The particular time when I obſerved them very numerous " and ſportive, was on the 26th of *May*, at ſix o'clock in " the evening. It was a ſight very ſurprizing, and enter- " taining, to ſee the rivers teeming with innumerable, pretty, " nimble, flying inſects; and almoſt every thing near cover- " ed with them. When I looked up into the air, it was full " of them, as high as I could diſcern; and being ſo thick, " and always in motion, they made almoſt ſuch an appearance " as when one looks up, and ſees the ſnow coming down; " and yet this wonderful appearance, in three or four days " after the laſt of *May*, totally diſappeared." *Bowlker*, 67.

* *Ulyſſes Aldrovandus*, a great Phyſician and Naturaliſt of *Bologna*; he wrote 120 books on ſeveral ſubjects, and a treatiſe *de Piſcibus*, publiſhed laſt at *Francfort*, 1640.

herbs

herbs or leaves; for moſt think thoſe very leaves that gave them life and ſhape, give them a particular feeding and nouriſhment, and that upon them they uſually abide; yet he obſerves, that this is called a pilgrim or palmer-worm, for his very wandring life and various food; not contenting himſelf, as others do, with any one certain place for his abode, nor any certain kind of herbs or flowers for his feeding; but will boldly and diſorderly wander up and down, and not endure to be kept to a diet, or fixt to a particular place:

Nay, the very colours of caterpillars are, as one has obſerved, very elegant and beautiful; I ſhall, for a taſte of the reſt, deſcribe one of them, which I will ſometime the next month ſhew you feeding on a willow-tree, and you ſhall find him punctually to anſwer this very deſcription; his lips and mouth ſomewhat yellow, his eyes black as jet, his forehead purple, his feet and hinder parts green, his tail two forked and black, the whole body ſtained with a kind of red ſpots which run along the neck and ſhoulder-blade, not unlike the form of Saint *Andrew*'s croſs, or the letter X, made thus croſs-wiſe, and a white line drawn down his back to his tail; all which add much beauty to his whole body. And it is to me obſervable, that at a fixed age this caterpillar gives over to eat, and towards winter comes to be covered over with a ſtrange ſhell or cruſt called an *Aurelia*, and ſo lives a kind of dead life, without eating all the winter; and, as others of ſeveral kinds turn to be ſeveral kinds of flies and vermin the ſpring following, ſo this caterpillar then turns to be a painted butter-flie.

View Sir Fra. Bacon exper. 728 & 90. in his Natural Hiſtory.

Come,

Come, come my Scholar, you ſee the river ſtops our morning-walk, and I will alſo here ſtop my diſcourſe, only as we ſit down under this honey-ſuckle hedg, whilſt I look a line to fit the rod that our brother *Peter* hath lent you, I ſhall for a little confirmation of what I have ſaid, repeat the obſervation of *du Bartas:*

God not contented to each kind to give,
And to infuſe the vertue generative,
By his wiſe power made many creatures breed
Of lifeleſs bodies without Venus *deed.*

6. Day of du Bartas.

So the cold humor breeds the Salamander,
Who, in effect, like to her birth's commander,
With child with hundred winters, with her touch
Quencheth the fire though glowing ne'er ſo much.

So in the fire in burning furnace ſprings
The Fly Perauſta *with the flaming wings;*
Without the fire it dyes, in it it joyes,
Living in that which all things elſe deſtroyes.

So ſlow Boôtes *underneath him ſees*
In th'icy iſlands goſlings hatch'd of trees,
Whoſe fruitful leaves falling into the water,
Are turn'd, 'tis known, to living fowls ſoon after.

View Gerh. Herbal and Camden.

So rotten planks of broken ſhips do change
To Barnacles. O transformation ſtrange!
'Twas firſt a green tree, then a broken hull,
Lately a muſhrome, now a flying Gull.

Venat. O my good Maſter, this morning-walk has been ſpent to my great pleaſure and wonder:

wonder: but I pray, when ſhall I have your direction how to make artificial flies, like to thoſe that the Trout loves beſt? and alſo how to uſe them?

Piſc. My honeſt Scholar, it is now paſt five of the clock, we will fiſh till nine, and then go to breakfaſt: Go you to yonder ſycamore-tree, and hide your bottle of drink under the hollow root of it; for about that time, and in that place, we will make a brave breakfaſt with a piece of powdered beef, and a radiſh or two that I have in my fiſh-bag; we ſhall, I warrant you, make a good, honeſt, wholſome, hungry breakfaſt, and I will then give you direction for the making and uſing of your flies: and in the mean time there is your rod and line, and my advice is, that you fiſh as you ſee me do, and let's try which can catch the firſt fiſh.

Ven. I thank you, Maſter, I will obſerve and practice your directions as far as I am able.

Piſc. Look you, Scholar, you ſee I have hold of a good fiſh: I now ſee it is a Trout, I pray put that net under him, and touch not my line, for if you do, then we break all. Well done Scholar, I thank you.

Now for another. Truſt me I have another bite: come Scholar, come lay down your rod, and help me to land this as you did the other. So, now we ſhall be ſure to have a good diſh of fiſh to ſupper.

Ven. I am glad of that; but I have no fortune: ſure, Maſter, your's is a better rod, and better tackling.

Piſc. Nay, then take mine, and I will fiſh with your's. Look you, Scholar, I have another; come

come, do as you did before. And now I have a bite at another: Oh me! he has broke all; there's half a line and a good hook loſt.

Ven. I, and a good Trout too.

Piſc. Nay, the Trout is not loſt, for pray take notice no man can loſe what he never had.

Ven. Maſter, I can neither catch with the firſt nor ſecond angle: I have no fortune.

Piſc. Look you, Scholar, I have yet another: and now having caught three brace of Trouts, I will tell you a ſhort tale as we walk towards our breakfaſt: a ſcholar, a preacher I ſhould ſay, that was to preach to procure the approbation of a pariſh, that he might be their lecturer, had got from his fellow pupil the copy of a ſermon that was firſt preached with great commendation by him that compoſed it; and though the borrower of it preached it word for word, as it was at firſt, yet it was utterly diſliked as it was preached by the ſecond to his congregation: which the ſermon-borrower complained of to the lender of it, and was thus anſwered; "I lent you indeed my "fiddle, but not my fiddleſtick;" for you are to know, that every one cannot make muſick with my words, which are fitted for my own mouth. And ſo, my Scholar, you are to know, that as the ill pronunciation or ill accenting of words in a ſermon ſpoils it, ſo the ill carriage of your line, or not fiſhing even to a foot in a right place, makes you loſe your labour: and you are to know, that though you have my fiddle, that is, my very rod and tacklings with which you ſee I catch fiſh; yet you have not my fiddleſtick, that is, you yet have not ſkill to know how to carry your hand and line, nor how to guide it to a right

Plate IV. to Front Page 105.

Pub.d According to Act of Parliam.t 1759.

right place: and this muſt be taught you, for you are to remember I told you Angling is an art, either by practice, or a long obſervation, or both. But take this for a rule, when you fiſh for a Trout with a worm, let your line have ſo much, and not more lead than will fit the ſtream in which you fiſh; that is to ſay; more in a great troubleſome ſtream than in a ſmaller that is quieter; as near as may be, ſo much as will ſink the bait to the bottom, and keep it ſtill in motion, and not more.

But now let's ſay grace and fall to breakfaſt: what ſay you, Scholar, to the providence of an old Angler? does not this meat taſte well? and was not this place well choſen to eat it? for this ſycamore-tree will ſhade us from the ſun's heat.

Ven. All excellent good, and my ſtomach excellent good too. And now I remember and find that true which devout *Leſſius* * ſays, "that "poor men, and thoſe that faſt often, have "much more pleaſure in eating than rich men "and gluttons, that always feed before their "ſtomachs are empty of their laſt meat, and call "for more: for by that means they rob themſelves of that pleaſure that hunger brings to "poor men." And I do ſeriouſly approve of that ſaying of your's, "that you had rather be "a civil, well-governed, well-grounded, tem-

* *Leonard Leſſius*, a very learned Jeſuit, Profeſſor of Divinity in the college of Jeſuits at *Louvain*; he was born at *Antwerp*, 1554; and became very famous for his ſkill in Divinity, Civil Law, Mathematics, Phyſic, and Hiſtory: he wrote ſeveral theological tracts, and a treatiſe *de Summo Bono, et æterna beatudine Hominis*; from whence, it is probable, the paſſage in the text is cited. He died 1623.

"perate

" perate, poor Angler, than a drunken Lord." But I hope there is none ſuch; however, I am certain of this, that I have been at many very coſtly dinners that have not afforded me half the content that this has done, for which I thank God and you.

And now, good Maſter, proceed to your promiſed direction for making and ordering my artificial flie.

Piſc. My honeſt Scholar, I will do it, for it is a debt due unto you by my promiſe; and becauſe you ſhall not think yourſelf more engaged to me than indeed you really are, I will freely give you ſuch directions as were lately given to me by an ingenuous brother of the Angle, an honeſt man, and a moſt excellent flie-fiſher.

You are to note, that there are twelve kinds of artificial made-flies to angle with upon the top of the water: note by the way, that the fitteſt ſeaſon of uſing theſe, is a bluſtering windy day, when the waters are ſo troubled that the natural flie cannot be ſeen, or reſt upon them. The firſt is the *dun-flie* in *March*, the body is made of dun wool, the wings of the partridges feathers. The ſecond is another *dun-flie*, the body of black wool, and the wings made of the black drakes feathers, and of the feathers under his tail. The third is the *ſtone-flie* in *April*, the body is made of black wool made yellow under the wings, and under the tail, and ſo made with wings of the drake. The fourth is the *ruddy-flie* in the beginning of *May*, the body made of red wool wrapt about with black ſilk, and the feathers are the wings of the drake, with the feathers of a red capon alſo, which hang dangling

come

on his ſides next to the tail. The fifth is the *yellow* or *greeniſh-flie*, in *May* likewiſe, the body made of yellow wool, and the wings made of the red cock's hackle or tail. The ſixth is, the *black-flie*, in *May* alſo, the body made of black wool, and lapt about with the herl of a peacock's tail; the wings are made of the wings of a brown capon with his blew feathers in his head. The ſeventh is the ſad *yellow-flie* in *June*, the body is made of black wool, with a yellow liſt on either ſide, and the wings taken off the wings of a buzzard, bound with black braked hemp. The eighth is the *mooriſh-flie*, made with the body of duſkiſh wool, and the wings made of the blackiſh mail of the drake. The ninth is the *tawny-flie*, good until the middle of *June*; the body made of tawny wool, the wings made contrary one againſt the other, made of the whitiſh mail of the wild drake The tenth is the *waſp-flie*, in *July*, the body made of black wool, lapt about with yellow ſilk, the wings made of the feathers of the drake, or of the buzzard. The eleventh is the *ſhell-flie*, good in mid *July*, the body made of greeniſh wool, lapt about with the herl of a peacock's tail; and the wings made of the wings of the buzzard. The twelfth is the *dark drake-flie*, good in *Auguſt*, the body made with black wool, lapt about with black ſilk: his wings are made with the mail of the black drake, with a black head. Thus have you a jury of flies likely to betray and condemn all the Trouts in the river *.

I

* It has been already obſerved, that *Walton*'s excellence, as an Angler, did not conſiſt in Fly-fiſhing: the reader is

I ſhall next give you ſome other directions for flie-fiſhing, ſuch as are given by Mr. *Thomas Barker* *, a gentleman that hath ſpent much time

therefore recommended to the liſt of flies in the ſecond part, and the additions contained in the notes thereon.

* It is ſuppoſed that the reader is by this time not wholly ignorant who this gentleman was, as mention is made of him in the author's life. We have already given the Dedication to his *Art of Angling*; and here now follow ſome extracts from that humorous piece itſelf. Addreſſing himſelf to the noble Lord to whom his book is dedicated, he thus begins:

——" Under favour, I will compliment, and put a caſe to " your honour. I met with a man, and upon our diſcourſe " he fell out with me, having a good weapon, but neither " ſtomach nor ſkill: I ſay *this man may come home by* " *Weeping-Croſs*; I will *cauſe the clerk to toll his knell.* " It is the very like caſe to the Gentleman Angler, that go- " eth to the river for his pleaſure: This Angler hath neither " judgment nor experience: he may come home lightly la- " den at his leiſure.——

——" A man that goeth to the river for his pleaſure, muſt " underſtand, when he cometh there, to *ſet forth his tackle.* " The firſt thing he muſt do, is to obſerve the *Wind* and " *Sun* for *day*, the *Moon*, the *Stars*, and the *Wanes of the* " *air* for *night*, to *ſet forth his tackles* for day or night; and " accordingly to go for his pleaſure and ſome profit.——

——" Now I am determined to angle with the ground- " baits, and ſet my tackles to my rod, and *go to my pleaſure.* " I begin at the uppermoſt part of the ſtream, carrying my " line with an upright hand, feeling my plummet running " truly on the ground ſome ten inches from the hook, plum- " ming my line according to the ſwiftneſs of the ſtream I " angle in; for one plummet will not ſerve for all ſtreams; " for the true angling is, that the plummet run truly on the " ground.——

——" My Lord ſent to me, at Sun going down, to pro- " vide him a good diſh of Trouts againſt the next morning, " by ſix o'clock. I went to the door *to ſee how the Wanes* " *of the air were like to prove.* I returned anſwer, that I " doubted not, God willing, but to be provided at the time " appointed.

time in fiſhing: but I ſhall do it with a little variation.

Firſt, let your rod be light, and very gentle,

I

" appointed. I went preſently to the river, and it proved " very dark: I threw out a line of three ſilks and three " hairs twiſted, for the uppermoſt part, and a line of two " hairs and two ſilks twiſted, for the lower part, with a good " large hook. I baited my hook with two Lob-worms, " the four ends hanging as meet as I could gueſs them in " the dark; I fell to angle. It proved very dark; ſo that " I had good ſport, angling with the Lob-worms as I do " with the Flies, on the top of the water; you ſhall hear the " fiſh riſe at the top of the water; then you muſt looſe a " ſlack line down to the bottom, as nigh as you can gueſs; " then hold your line ſtrait, feeling the fiſh bite; give time, " there is no doubt of loſing the fiſh; for there is not one " amongſt twenty but doth gorge the bait; the leaſt ſtroke " you can ſtrike faſtens the hook, and makes the fiſh ſure, " letting the fiſh take a turn or two, you may take him up " with you hands. The night began to alter, and grow " ſomewhat lighter; I took off the Lob-worms, and ſet " to my rod a *White* Palmer-fly, made of a large hook; " I had good ſport for the time, until it grew lighter: ſo I " took off the White Palmer, and ſet to a *Red* Palmer, made " of a large hook; I had good ſport until it grew very " light: then I took off the Red Palmer, and ſet to a *Black* " Palmer; I had good ſport, made up the diſh of fiſh. So " I put up my tackles, and was with my Lord at his time " appointed for the ſervice.

" Theſe three Flies, with the help of the Lob-worms, " ſerve to angle all the year for the night, obſerving the times " as I have ſhewed you in this night-work, the *white* fly " for darkneſs, the *red* fly in *medio*, and the *black* flie for " lightneſs. This is the true experience for angling in the " night; which is the ſureſt angling of all, and killeth the " greateſt Trouts. Your lines may be ſtrong, but muſt not " be longer than your rod.

" Now having taken a good diſh of Trouts, I preſented " them to my Lord; he having provided good company, com- " manded me to turn cook, and dreſs them for dinner."——

 ——" There

I take the beſt to be of two pieces *, and let not your line exceed, eſpecially for three or four links next to the hook, I ſay, not exceed three or four hairs at the moſt, though you may fiſh a little ſtronger above in the upper part of your line: but if you can attain to angle with one hair, you ſhall have more riſes and catch more fiſh. Now you muſt be ſure not to cumber yourſelf with too long a line, as moſt do: and before you begin to angle, caſt to have the wind on your back, and the ſun, if it ſhines, to be before you, and to fiſh down the ſtream; and carry the point or top of your rod downward, by which means the ſhadow of yourſelf, and rod too will be the leaſt offenſive to the fiſh, for the ſight of any ſhade amazes the fiſh, and ſpoils your ſport, of which you muſt take a great care.

In the middle of *March*, till which time a man ſhould not in honeſty catch a Trout, or in *April*, if the weather be dark, or a little windy or

——— " There comes an honeſt gentleman, a familiar " friend, to me, he was an Angler, begins to compliment " with me, and aſked me how I did? when I had been " angling? and demanded, in diſcourſe, what was the rea- " ſon I did not relate in my book the dreſſing of *his diſh of* " *fiſh*, which he loved? *I pray you, Sir, What diſh of* " *Trouts was that?* He ſaid, it was a diſh of cloſe-boiled " Trouts, buttered with eggs. My anſwer was to him, that " *every ſcullion dreſſeth that diſh againſt his will, becauſe he* " *cannot calvor them.* I will tell you in ſhort: Put your " Trouts into the kettle when the kettle is ſet to the fire; " and let them boil gently; as many cooks do, and they " ſhall boil cloſe enough; which is a good diſh, buttered " with eggs, good for ploughmen, but not for the palate. " Sir, *I hope I have given you ſatisfaction.*"

* For your Rod, and alſo for a Fly-line, take the directions contained in the notes on Chap: xxi.

cloudy,

cloudy, the beſt fiſhing is with the palmer-worm, of which I laſt ſpoke to you, but of theſe there be divers kinds, or at leaſt of divers colours; theſe and the *May-flie* are the ground of all flie-angling, which are to be thus made.

Firſt, you muſt arm your hook with the line in the inſide of it, then take your ſciſſars, and cut ſo much of a brown mallard's feather as in your own reaſon will make the wings of it, you having withal regard to the bigneſs or littleneſs of your hook, then lay the outmoſt part of your feather next to your hook, then the point of your feather next the ſhank of your hook; and having ſo done, whip it three or four times about the hook with the ſame ſilk, with which your hook was armed, and having made the ſilk faſt, take the hackle of a cock or capon's neck, or a plover's top, which is uſually better: take off the one ſide of the feather, and then take the hackle, ſilk, or crewel, gold or ſilver thred, make theſe faſt at the bent of the hook, that is to ſay, below your arming; then you muſt take the hackle, the ſilver or gold thred, and work it up to the wings, ſhifting or ſtill removing your finger, as you turn the ſilk about the hook: and ſtill looking at every ſtop or turn, that your gold, or what materials ſoever you make your flie of, do lie right and neatly, and if you find they do ſo, then when you have made the head, make all faſt: then work your hackle up to the head, and make that faſt: and then with a needle or pin divide the wing into two, and then with the arming ſilk whip it about croſs-ways betwixt the wings, and then with your thumb you muſt turn the point of the feather towards the bent of the

hook, and then work three or four times about the ſhank of the hook, and then view the proportion, and if all be neat and to your liking faſten.

I confeſs, no direction can be given to make a man of a dull capacity able to make a flie well: and yet I know, this with a little practice will help an ingenuous Angler in a good degree: but to ſee a flie made by an artiſt in that kind, is the beſt teaching to make it; and then an ingenuous Angler may walk by the river and mark what flies fall on the water that day, and catch one of them, if he ſee the Trouts leap at a flie of that kind: and then having alwaies hooks ready hung with him, and having a bag alſo always with him, with Bear's hair, or the hair of a brown or ſad-coloured heifer, hackles of a Cock or a Capon, ſeveral coloured ſilk and crewel to make the body of the flie, the feathers of a Drake's head, black or brown Sheep's wool, or Hog's wool, or hair, thred of gold and of ſilver: ſilk of ſeveral colours, eſpecially ſad-coloured, to make the flie's head; and there be alſo other coloured feathers both of little birds and of peckled foul. I ſay having thoſe with him * in a bag †, and trying to make a flie, though he miſs

* The author not having particularly enumerated the materials neceſſary for Fly-making, it will not be improper, once for all, to do it here. And firſt, You muſt be provided with BEAR'S HAIR of divers colours; as grey, dun, light and dark-coloured, bright brown, and that which ſhines: alſo CAMEL'S HAIR, dark, light, and of a colour between both: BADGER'S HAIR, or FUR: SPANIEL'S HAIR, from behind the ear, light, and dark-brown, blackiſh, and black: HOG'S DOWN,

For the Note to this † Reference above, ſee Page 115.

miſs at firſt, yet ſhall he at laſt hit it better, even to ſuch a perfection, as none can well teach him; and if he hit to make his flie right, and have the luck to hit alſo where there is ſtore of Trouts, a dark

DOWN, which may be had, about *Chriſtmas*, of Butchers, or rather of thoſe that make Brawn; it ſhould be pluck'd from under the throat, and other ſoft places of the Hog, and muſt be of the following colours, *viz.* black, red, whitiſh, and ſandy; and for other colours, you may get them dy'd at a Dyer's: SEAL'S FUR; is to be had at the Trunkmaker's; get this alſo dy'd of the colours of Cow's and Calve's Hair, in all the different ſhades, from the light to the darkeſt brown; you will then never need Cow's or Calve's Hair; both which are harſh, and will never work kindly, nor lay handſomely: get alſo MOHAIRS, black, blue, purple, white, violet; *Iſabella*, which colour is deſcribed in a note on *Cotton*'s Flies for *March*. *Philomot*, from *feuille morte*, a dead leaf, yellow and orange: CAMLETS, both hair and worſted, blue, yellow, dun, light and dark brown, red, violet, purple, black, Horſe-fleſh, pink, and orange colours. Some recommend the hair of abortive Colts and Calves; but Seal's Fur dyed, as above, is much better.

A piece of an old TURKY-CARPET will furniſh excellent Dubbing: untwiſt the yarn, and pick out the wool, carefully ſeparating the different colours, and lay it by.

Some uſe for Dubbing, BARGE-SAIL, concerning which the reader is to know, that the ſails of Weſt-country and other barges, when old, are uſually converted into tilts, under which there is almoſt a continual ſmoak ariſing from the fire and the ſteam of the beef-kettle; which all ſuch barges carry, and which, in time dyes the tilt of a fine brown; this would be excellent Dubbing, but that the material of theſe ſails is ſheep's wool, which ſoaks in the water, and ſoon becomes very heavy: however, get of this as many different ſhades as you can; and have Seal's Fur and Hog-wool dyed to mateh them; which, by reaſon they are more turgid, ſtiff and light, and ſo float better, are, in moſt caſes, to be preferred to worſted, crewels, and, indeed, to every other kind of wool; and obſerve that the Hog-wool is beſt for large, and the Seal's Fur for ſmall flyes.

dark day, and a right wind, he will catch ſuch ſtore of them, as will encourage him to grow more and more in love with the art of Fly-making.

Venat. But, my loving maſter, if any wind will not ſerve, then I wiſh I were in *Lapland*, to buy

Get alſo FURS of the following animals, *viz.* the *Squirrel*, particularly from his tail; *Fox-cub*, from the tail where it is downy, and of an aſh-colour; an *old Fox*, , an *old Otter*, *Otter-cub*, *Badger*, *Fulimart*, or *Filmert*; a *Hare*, from the neck, where it is of the colour of withered Fern; and above all, the *yellow Fur of the Martern*, from off the gills or ſpots under the jaws. All theſe, and almoſt every other kind of Fur, are eaſily got at the Furriers.

HACKLES are a very important article in Fly-making: they are the long ſlender feathers that hang from the head of a Cock down his neck; there may alſo be fine ones got from near his tail; be careful that they are not too rank, which they are when the fibres are more than half an inch long; and for ſome purpoſes theſe are much too big: be provided with theſe of the following colours, *viz. red*, *dun*, *yellowiſh*, *white*, *orange*, and perfect *black*, and whenever you meet, alive or dead, with a Cock of the game-breed, whoſe hackle is of a ſtrong brown-red, never fail to buy him; but obſerve that the feathers of a Cock-*chicken* be they ever ſo fine for ſhape and colour, are good for little; for they are too downy and weak to ſtand erect after they are once wet; and ſo are thoſe of the *Bantam* Cock.

FEATHERS are abſolutely neceſſary for the wings, and other parts of flies; get therefore Feathers from the back and other Parts of the *wild Mallard*, or *Drake*, the Feathers of a *Partridge*, eſpecially thoſe red ones that are in the tail: Feathers from a *Cock-Pheaſant*'s breaſt and tail, the wings of a *Blackbird*, a *brown Hen*, of a *Starling*, a *Jay*, a *Land-Rail*, a *Throſtle*, a *Fieldfare*, and a *Water-coot*; the Feathers from the crown of the *Peawit*, *Plover*, or *Lapwing*; green and copper coloured *Peacock*'s and black *Oſtrich* Herl; Feathers from a *Heron*'s neck and wings; and remember, that in moſt inſtances where the *Drake*'s or wild *Mallard*'s Feather is hereafter directed, that from a *Starling*'s wing

will

buy a good wind of one of the honeſt witches, that ſell ſo many winds there, and ſo cheap.

Piſc. Marry ſcholar, but I would not be there, nor indeed from under this tree: for look how it begins to rain, and by the clouds, if I miſtake

will do much better, as being of a finer grain, and leſs ſpungy.

Be provided with *marking-ſilk* of all colours, fine, but very ſtrong, *ſlaw-ſilk*, gold and ſilver *flatted wire or twiſt*, *a ſharp knife*, *books of all ſizes*, *Hog's-briſtles* for loops to your flies, *Shoemaker's-wax*, *a large needle* to raiſe your Dubbing when flatted with working, and *a ſmall but ſharp pair of ſciſſars*.

And laſtly, If any materials required in the ſubſequent liſts of Flies may have been omitted in the foregoing catalogue, be careful to add them to your former ſtock as often as you ſhall find any ſuch omiſſions.

Remember, with all your Dubbing, to mix *Bear's-Hair* and *Hog's-Wool*, which are ſtiff, and not apt to imbibe the water, as the fine Furs, and moſt other kind of Dubbing, do: and remember alſo, that *Martern's* Fur is the beſt yellow you can uſe.

† The uſe of a Bag is attended with many inconveniencies, of which, the mixing and waſting your materials are not the leaſt; to prevent which the following method is recommended: Take a Piece of fine grained Parchment, of ſeven inches by nine, and fold it ſo that the ſize and proportion of it will be that of a ſmall octavo volume; then open it, and through the firſt leaf, with a ſharp penknife and a ruler make three croſs cuts, at the ſame proportionable diſtance as thoſe in Plate IX. Fig. 1. and with a needle and ſilk ſtitch the two leaves together, as in that figure; let each of the margins be half an inch at leaſt.

Then, with a pair of compaſſes, take the diſtance from A to B, and ſet it on in the middle of a ſmall piece of parchment; and likewiſe ſet on the ſame diſtance to the right and left, and at each extremity cut off, with a penknife and ruler the ſpare parchment, obſerving that the ſides are exactly parallel.

At

ſtake not, we ſhall preſently have a ſmoaking ſhower, and therefore ſit cloſe; this Sycamore-tree will ſhelter us: and I will tell you, as they ſhall come into my mind, more obſervations of flie-fiſhing for a Trout.

But

At about a quarter of an inch from the top, make a cut through the firſt and third diviſions, and, with a pair of ſciſſars, ſnip out the looſe pieces.

Then ſet on the diſtance from A to C, and cut as before, leaving the middle diviſion an inch longer at bottom than the others: when this is done, your parchment will have the ſhape and proportion of Fig. 2. and you may cut the upper flap as it appears there.

Be careful that the cuts, and indeed all your work, are exactly ſquare; and when this is done, turn in the ſides and ends of the Parchment, ſo cut as before, and preſs the folds with a folding-ſtick, and you have one pocket, ſhaped as Fig. 3. which put into the firſt partition.

Purſue the ſame method with the ſmall pockets, and thoſe for the other partitions; and in this manner proceed 'till you have completed ſix leaves, which are to make the firſt of your book: the larger of theſe pockets are to hold Hog-wool, Seal's Fur, and Bear's Hair, and the ſmaller the finer Furs; which are thoſe of the Martern, Fox-cub, *&c.*

In each of the ſix diviſions, in every leaf, with a Sadler's hollow punch, make a hole; to which end take a thin narrow ſtick of beech, or any hardiſh wood, and when the pocket is in its place, put the ſtick down into the pocket, and, obſerving the center of the diviſion, give the punch a ſmart blow with a mallet; theſe holes will ſhew what is contained in each of the pockets.

The next leaf may be ſingle; ſtitch it acroſs with double ſilk diagonally, and croſs thoſe ſtitches with others, and the ſpaces will be of a lozenge-ſhape; let the ſtitches be half an inch in length: into theſe you are to tuck your Dubbing when mixed ready for uſe.

The next leaf ſhould be double, ſtitched with a margin as the others; and through the firſt fold cut a lozenge, as big as the ſize will allow of: into this you may tuck three or four wings of ſmall birds, as the Starling, the Land-Rail, the Throſtle,

But firſt for the wind, you are to take notice, that of the winds the ſouth wind is ſaid to be beſt. One obſerves, that

——When the wind is South,
It blows your bait into a fiſh's mouth.

Next to that, the Weſt wind is believed to be the beſt: and having told you that the Eaſt wind is the worſt, I need not tell you which wind is

Throſtle, &c. At the back of this leaf ſew two little parchment ſtraps, of half an inch wide, very ſtrong; through which put a ſmall, but very neat and ſharp pair of ſciſſars.

You may, on another ſingle leaf, make four or five croſs-bars of long ſtitches, through which, as well on the back as the foreſide, you may put large feathers, namely, thoſe of a Cock-pheaſant's tail, a ruddy-brown Hen, &c.

The next three leaves ſhould be double; ſtitch them through the middle, from ſide to ſide, and with the compaſſes deſcribe a circle of about an inch and half diameter; cut out the parchment within the circle; under ſome of the margins, when the leaves are ſtitched together you may tuck Peacock's and Oſtrich Herl, and in others lay neatly the golden feathers of a Pheaſant's breaſt, and the grey and dyed yellow mail of a mallard.

Three double leaves more, with only two large pockets in each, may be allotted for ſilk of various colours, gold and ſilver-twiſt, and other odd things; ſix ſingle leaves more will complete your book; ſtitch them from ſide to ſide with diſtances of half an inch, and croſs thoſe ſtitches with others, from top to bottom, with ſomewhat greater diſtances; and into every other ſpace, reckoning from top to bottom, lay neatly and ſmoothly a Starling's feather; do the ſame on the backſide, and ſo for two leaves.

The other leaves you may fill with Land-Rail's and other ſmall feathers, Plover's tops, and red and black Hackles.

The firſt and laſt leaves of your book may be double, ſtitched in the middle, from ſide to ſide, but open at the edges

is the beſt in the third degree; and yet as *Solomon* obſerves, that "he that conſiders the wind ſhall never ſow:" ſo he that buſies his head too much about them, if the weather be not made extream cold by an eaſt wind, ſhall be a little ſuperſtitious: for as it is obſerved by ſome, that there is no good Horſe of a bad colour; ſo I have obſerved that if it be a cloudy day, and not extream cold, let the wind ſit in what corner it will, and do its worſt I heed it not. And yet take this for a rule, that I would willingly fiſh ſtanding on the Lee-ſhore: and you are to take notice, that the fiſh lies or ſwims nearer the bottom, and in deeper water in Winter than in Summer; and alſo nearer the bottom in a cold day, and then gets neareſt the Lee-ſide of the water.

But I promiſed to tell you more of the flie-fiſhing for a Trout, which I may have time enough to do, for you ſee it rains *May* butter: firſt for a *May-flie*, you may make his body with greeniſh coloured Crewel, or willowiſh colour; darkning it in moſt places with waxed ſilk,

edges; which will leave you four pockets like thoſe of a common pocket-book; into which you may put hooks, and a ſmall piece of wax, wrapped in a bit of glove-leather.

To the page that contains the mixed Dubbings, there ſhould be an Index, referring to every diviſion contained in it, and expreſſing what Fly each mixture is for.

When your book is thus prepared, ſend it to the binder with directions to bind it as ſtrong as poſſible; let him leave a flap to one of the boards, and faſten to it a yard of riband to tie it.

The uſefulneſs and manifold conveniencies of a *book* are apparent; and whoever will be at the pains of making ſuch a one as this, will find it vaſtly preferable to a *Magazine-bag*.

or

or ribed with black hair, or ſome of them ribed with ſilver thred; and ſuch wings for the colour as you ſee the flie to have at that ſeaſon; nay, at that very day on the water. Or you may make the *Oak-flie* with an Orange-tawny and black ground, and the brown of a mallard's feather for the wings; and you are to know, that theſe two are moſt excellent flies, that is, the *May-flie* and the *Oak-flie*. And let me again tell you that you keep as far from the water as you can poſſibly, whether you fiſh with a flie or worm, and fiſh down the ſtream; and when you fiſh with a flie, if it be poſſible, let no part of your line touch the water *, but your flie only; and be ſtill moving your flie upon the water, or caſting it into the water, you yourſelf being alſo always moving down the ſtream. Mr. *Barker* commends ſeveral ſorts of the Palmer flies, not only thoſe ribed with ſilver and gold, but others that have their bodies all made of black, or ſome with red, and a red hackle; you may alſo make the *Hawthorn-flie*, which is all black, and not big, but very ſmall, the ſmaller the better; or the Oak-flie, the body of which is orange-colour and black crewel, with a brown wing, or a flie made with a *Peacock's feather*, is excellent in a bright day †: You muſt be ſure you want not in your

* This is impoſſible, unleſs you dib with the artificial as with the natural fly, which is never practiſed. The method of throwing or caſting is more particularly treated of in the Notes on Chap. V. of Part II.

† *A brother of the Angle muſt always be ſped*
With three black Palmers, and alſo two red,

And

your Magazine-bag the Peacock's feather, and grounds of ſuch wool and Crewel as will make the Graſhopper; and note, that uſually the ſmalleſt flies are the beſt; and note alſo, that the *light* flie does uſually make moſt ſport *in a dark day*, and *the darkeſt and leaſt flie in a bright or clear day*; and laſtly note, that you are to repair upon any occaſion to your Magazine-bag, and upon any occaſion vary and make them lighter or ſadder according to your fancy or the day.

And now I ſhall tell you, that the fiſhing with a natural flie is excellent, and affords much pleaſure; they may be found thus, the *May-flie* uſually in and about that month near to the river ſide, eſpecially againſt rain; the *Oak-flie* on the butt or body of an Oak or Aſh, from the

And all made with Hackles: in a cloudy day,
Or in windy weather, angle you may.

But morning and evening, if the day be bright,
And the chief point of all is to keep out of ſight.
In the month of May, *none but the* May-fly
For every month one, is a pitiful lye.

The black Hawthorn-fly *muſt be very ſmall,*
And the ſandy Hog's hair is ſure beſt of all:
For the Mallard-wing'd May-fly, *and Peacock's train,*
Will look like the Fleſh-fly to kill Trout amain.

The Oak-flye *is good, if it have a brown wing;*
So is the Graſhopper, *that in* July *doth ſing:*
With a green body make him, on a middle-ſiz'd hook;
But when you have catcht fiſh, then play the good Cook.

Once more, my good brother, I'll ſpeak in thy eare;
Hog's, Red Cow's, *and* Bear's-wool, *to float beſt appear;*
And ſo doth your Fur, if rightly it fall:
But always remember, make two, and make all.

A ſpecimen of Mr. *Barker*'s poetry!

begin-

beginning of *May* to the end of *Auguſt*; it is a browniſh flie, and eaſie to be ſo found, and ſtands uſually with his head downward, that is to ſay, towards the root of the tree *; the ſmall black flie, or *Hawthorn-flie*, is to be had on any hawthorn buſh after the leaves be come forth: with theſe and a ſhort line, as I ſhewed to Angle

* The *Oak fly* is known alſo by the names of the *Aſh-fly* and the *Woodcock-fly*; and in *Shropſhire* it is called the *Cannon* or *Downhill-fly*. Some dub it with black wool and *Iſabella*-coloured mohair, and bright browniſh Bear's hair, warped on with yellow ſilk, but the head of an aſh-colour; others dub it with an orange-tawney and black ground; others with blackiſh wool and gold-twiſt; the wings of the brown of a Mallard's feather. *Bowlker*, in his *Art of Angling*, Page 63, ſays, "The body may be made of a Bittern's feather, and the wings of the feather of a Woodcock's wing;" and adds, "This fly, as I have lately been informed by a gentleman of veracity, is bred in thoſe little balls which grow on the boughs of large oaks, commonly called Oak-apples; which he accidentally diſcovered by opening ſeveral of theſe balls, which had been gathered in the Winter, and brought into the houſe, in each of which was found the *Cannon-fly*; ſome of which, being enlivened by the warmth of the room, immediately took flight, and fixed in the window, with the head downwards, the poſition they obſerve on the trees."

This diſcovery, by which the formation of *galls* is accounted for, as well as the ſubſtances abovementioned, was made long ago by the ſagacious *Malpighi*; who had, with great diligence, attended to the operations of inſects in the act of depoſiting their eggs; and, in his treatiſe *de Gallis*, he deſcribes the hollow inſtrument, wherewith many flies are provided, with which they perforate the tegument of leaves, fruits, or buds, and through the hollow of it inject their eggs into the wounds which they have made; where, in proceſs of time, they are hatched and nouriſhed: and this he beheld one of theſe inſects doing in the bud of an oak See *Malpighi de Gallis*, Page 47.

And

Angle for a Chub, you may dape or dop, and alſo with a Graſhopper behind a tree, or in any deep hole, ſtill making it to move on the top of the water, as if it were alive, and ſtill keeping yourſelf out of ſight, you ſhall certainly have ſport if there be Trouts; yea, in a hot day, but eſpecially in the evening of a hot day, you will have ſport.

And now, ſcholar, my direction for flie-fiſhing is ended with this ſhower, for it has done raining; and now look about you, and ſee how pleaſantly that meadow looks; nay, and the earth ſmells as ſweetly too. Come, let me tell you what holy Mr. *Herbert* ſays of ſuch days and flowers as theſe, and then we will thank God that we enjoy them, and walk to the river and ſit down quietly, and try to catch the other brace of Trouts.

Sweet day, ſo cool, ſo calm, ſo bright,
The bridal of the earth and ſkie;
Sweet dews ſhall weep thy fall to night,
for thou muſt die.

Sweet Roſe, whoſe hew, angry and brave,
Bids the raſh gazer wipe his eye,
Thy root is ever in its grave,
and thou muſt die.

And Dr. *Derham* ſays, he himſelf "had once the good "fortune to ſee an oak-ball-*Ichneumon* ſtrike its *Terebra* into "an oak-apple divers times, no doubt, to lay its eggs there-"in." *Phyſ. Theol.* Book 8. Chap. 6. Note *bb*.

There is no compariſon between the frit of theſe authorities and thoſe of the two perſons laſt mentioned: but it is pleaſing to apply the accidental diſcoveries of unlearned men to the confirmation of *Hypotheſes* of which they are ignorant.

Sweet

Sweet ſpring, full of ſweet days and roſes,
A box where ſweets compacted lye;
My Muſick ſhews you have your cloſes,
and all muſt dye.

Only a ſweet and vertuous ſoul,
Like ſeaſon'd Timber never gives,
But when the whole world turns to coal *,
then chiefly lives.

Venat. I thank you good Maſter, for your good direction for flie-fiſhing, and for the ſweet enjoyment of the pleaſant day, which is ſo far ſpent without offence to God or man: and I thank you for the ſweet cloſe of your diſcourſe with Mr. *Herbert*'s Verſes, who I have heard loved Angling: and I do the rather believe it, becauſe he had a ſpirit ſuitable to Anglers, and to thoſe primitive Chriſtians that you love, and have ſo much commended.

Piſc. Well, my loving Scholar, and I am pleaſed to know that you are ſo well pleaſed with my direction and diſcourſe.

And ſince you like theſe Verſes of Mr. *Herbert*'s ſo well, let me tell you what a reverend and learned Divine that profeſſes to imitate him, and has indeed done ſo moſt excellently, hath writ of our Book of Common Prayer, which I know you will like the better, becauſe he is a friend of mine, and I am ſure no enemy to Angling.

* A ſtrange *metaphor* this! and a broken one too: it is to be hoped it will never be quoted as an inſtance of *the ſublime.*

What? pray'r by th' book? and common? Yes, why not?
The Spirit of grace,
And ſupplication,
Is not left free alone
For time and place,
But manner too: to read or ſpeak by rote,
Is all alike to him, that prayes
In's heart, what with his mouth he ſays.

They that in private by themſelves alone
Do pray, may take
What liberty they pleaſe,
In chuſing of the ways
Wherein to make
Their ſouls' moſt intimate affections known
To him that ſees in ſecret, when
Th' are moſt conceal'd from other men.

But he, that unto others leads the way
In publick prayer,
Should do it ſo
As all that hear may know
They need not fear
To tune their hearts unto his tongue, and ſay,
Amen; *not doubt they were betray'd*
To blaſpheme, when they meant to have pray'd.

Devotion will add Life unto the Letter,
And why ſhould not
That which Authority
Preſcribes, eſteemed be
Advantage got;
If th' prayer be good, the commoner the better,

Prayer in the Church's words, as well
As ſenſe, of all prayers bears the bell.
Ch. Harvie.

And now, Scholar, I think it will be time to repair to our Angle-rods, which we left in the water, to fiſh for themſelves, and you ſhall chuſe which ſhall be yours; and it is an even lay, one of them catches.

And let me tell you, this kind of fiſhing with a dead rod, and laying night-hooks, are like putting money to uſe, for they both work for the owners, when they do nothing but ſleep, or eat, or rejoyce; as you know we have done this laſt hour, and ſate as quietly and as free from cares under this Sycamore, as *Virgil*'s *Tityrus* and his *Melibæus* did under their broad Beech-tree: No life, my honeſt Scholar, no life ſo happy and ſo pleaſant, as the life of a well governed Angler; for when the Lawyer is ſwallowed up with buſineſs, and the Stateſman is preventing or contriving plots, then we ſit on Cowſlip-banks, hear the birds ſing, and poſſeſs ourſelves in as much quietneſs as theſe ſilent ſilver ſtreams, which we now ſee glide ſo quietly by us. Indeed, my good Scholar, we may ſay of Angling, as Dr. *Boteler* ſaid of Strawberries; "Doubtleſs "God could have made a better berry, but "doubtleſs God never did:" and ſo, if I might be judge, "God never did make a more calm, "quiet, innocent recreation, than Angling."

I'll tell you, Scholar, when I ſate laſt on this Primroſe-bank, and looked down theſe Meadows; I thought of them as *Charles* the emperour did of the City of *Florence*: "That they were too

" pleaſant to be looked on, but only on Holy-" days :" as I then ſate on this very graſs, I turned my preſent thoughts into verſe : 'twas a wiſh which I'll repeat to you.

The ANGLER's WISH.

I In theſe flow'ry meads wou'd be:
Theſe chryſtal ſtreams ſhould ſolace me;
To whoſe harmonious bubbling noiſe,
I with my Angle would rejoice,
Sit here and ſee the Turtle-dove,
Court his chaſt mate to acts of love;

Or on that bank, feel the weſt wind
Breath health and plenty, pleaſe my mind
To ſee ſweet dew-drops kiſs theſe flowers,
And then, waſht off by April-*ſhowers:*
* Like Hermit poor. *Here hear my* Kenna *ſing * a ſong* †,
There ſee a Black-bird feed her young,

Or a leverock build her neſt;
Here, give my weary ſpirits reſt,
And raiſe my low-pitcht thoughts above
Earth, or what poor mortals love:
Thus free from Law-ſuits, *and the noiſe*
Of Princes courts I wou'd rejoyce,

Or,

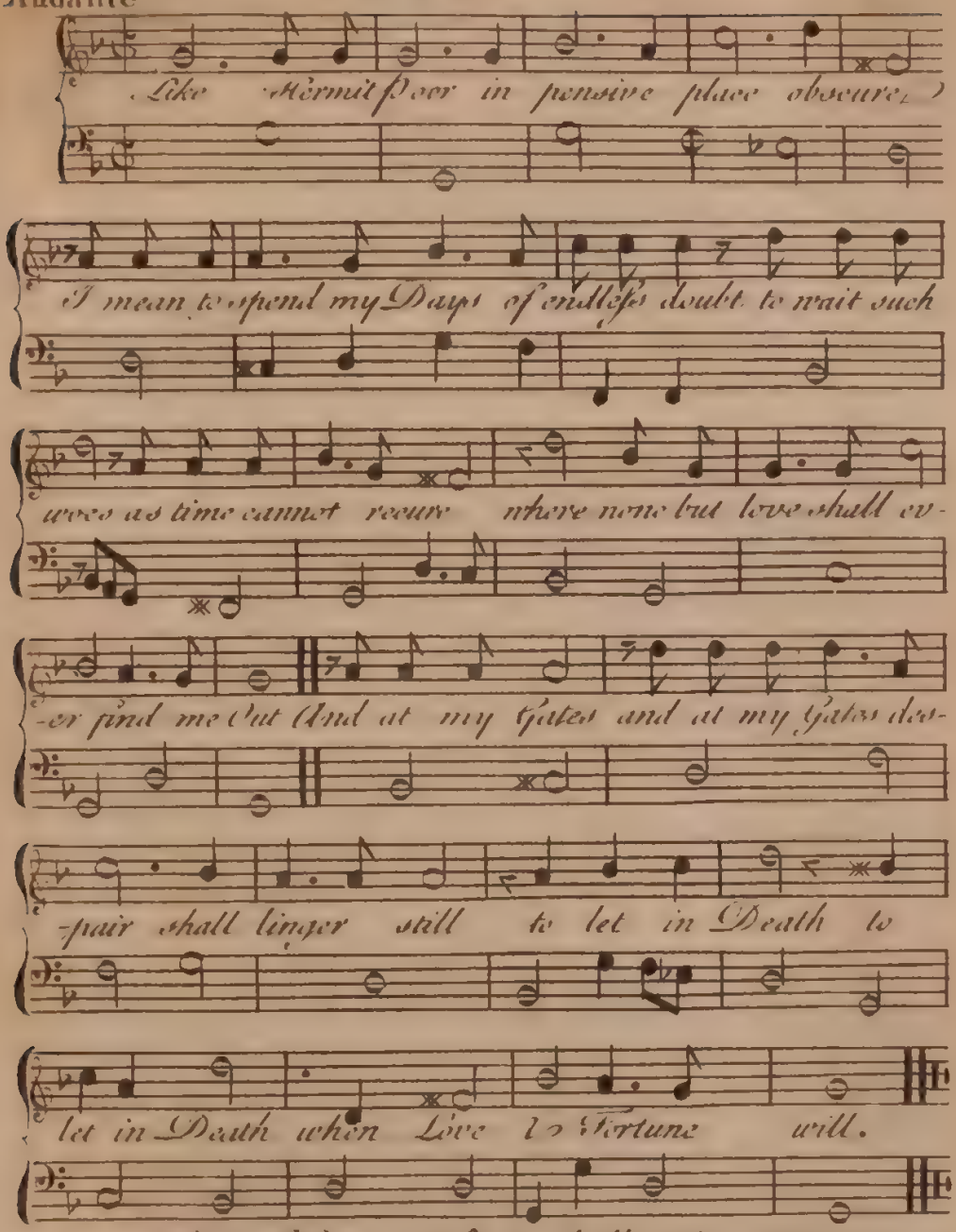
† We ſee, by the author's reference to the margin, that he wiſhes to hear *Kenna*, his miſtreſs, ſing the ſong, " *Like* " *hermit poor.*" This ſong was ſet to muſick by Mr. *Nich. Laneare*, an eminent maſter of *Walton*'s time; who, we are told by *Wood*, was alſo an excellent Painter; and whoſe portrait is yet to be ſeen in the Muſick-ſchool at *Oxford*; and is printed with the notes, in a collection intitled, " *Select mu-*" *ſical ayres and dialogues*," Fol. 1653. The ſong, as it ſtands there, we have given in the oppoſite page.

It

Plate V to front Page 126.

SONG

Andante



A Gown of Gray my Body shall attire Mr. Nic. Lancare
His staff of Broken hope whereon I'll stay
Of Late Repentance linkt with long desire
The couch is framid where on my limbs I lay
And at my Gates &c.

My food shall be of care & Sorrow made
My drink nought else but tears fallen from mine Eyes
And for my light in this obscure Shade
The flames may serve which from my Heart arise
And at my Gates &c.

Or, with my * Bryan, *and a book,*
Loyter long days near Shawford-brook †;
There ſit by him, and eat my meat,
There ſee the ſun both riſe and ſet:
There bid good morning to next day,
There meditate my time away:
And angle on, and beg to have
A quiet paſſage to a welcome grave.

When I had ended this compoſure, I left this place, and ſaw a brother of the Angle ſit under that hony-ſuckle-hedge, one that will prove worth your acquaintance; I ſate down by him, and preſently we met with an accidental piece of merriment, which I will relate to you; for it rains ſtill.

On the other ſide of this very hedge ſat a gang of Gypſies, and near to them ſate a gang of

It was alſo ſet by Sig. *Alfonſo Feraboſco*, and publiſhed in a collection of his aires, in Fol. 1609; but *Laneare*'s being the better compoſition, we have choſe to give it the preference, by inſerting it here.

There is no doubt but that this ſong was a favourite one; for, ſome years after the reſtoration, the three firſt words of it were become a phraſe. The affected writer of the life of the Lord-keeper *Guilford*, Page 212 of that book, ſpeaking of Sir *Job Charleton*, then Chief Juſtice of *Cheſter*, ſays, he wanted to ſpeak with the King, and went to *Whitehall*; where, returning from his walk in *St. James*'s park, he muſt paſs; and there he ſat him down, "*like hermit poor.*" And I alſo find, among the poems of Mr. *Phineas Fletcher*, hereafter mentioned, a metaphraſe of the xliid Pſalm; which, we are told, may be ſung to the tune of "*Like hermit poor.*"

* A friend of the author.

† *Shawford* is a place in *Staffordſhire*. *Spelm. Vill.*

Beggars: the Gypſies were then to divide all the money that had been got that week, either by ſtealing linnen or poultrie, or by fortune-telling, or legerdemain, or indeed by any other ſleights and ſecrets belonging to their myſterious government. And the ſum that was got that week proved to be but twenty and ſome odd ſhillings. The odd money was agreed to be diſtributed amongſt the poor of their own Corporation; and for the remaining twenty ſhillings, that was to be divided unto four gentlemen Gypſies, according to their ſeveral degrees in their Commonwealth.

And the firſt or chiefeſt gypſie, was by conſent to have a third part of the twenty ſhillings; which all men know is 6 s. 8 d.

The ſecond was to have a fourth part of the 20 s. which all men know to be 5 s.

The third was to have a fifth part of the 20 s. which all men know to be 4 s.

The fourth and laſt gypſie, was to have a ſixth part of the 20 s. which all men know to be 3 s. 4 d.

As for example,

3 times 6 s. 8 d. is —— 20 s.
And ſo is 4 times 5 s. —— 20 s.
And ſo is 5 times 4 s. —— 20 s.
And ſo is 6 times 3 s. 4 d. — 20 s.

And yet he that divided the money was ſo very a gypſie, that though he gave to every one theſe ſaid ſums, yet he kept one ſhilling of it for himſelf.

As

As for example,	s.	d.
	6	8
	5	0
	4	0
	3	4
make but	19	0

But now you ſhall know, that when the four gypſies ſaw that he had got one ſhilling by dividing the money, though not one of them knew any reaſon to demand more, yet like Lords and Courtiers every gypſie envied him that was the gainer, and wrangled with him, and every one ſaid the remaining ſhilling belonged to him: and ſo they fell to ſo high a conteſt about it, as none that knows the faithfulneſs of one gypſie to another, will eaſily believe; only we that have lived theſe laſt twenty years, are certain that money has been able to do much miſchief. However the gypſies were too wiſe to go to law, and did therefore chuſe their choice friends *Rook* and *Shark*, and our late *Engliſh Guſman* * to be their arbitrators

* There is extant, in the *Spaniſh* language, a book which has been tranſlated into *Engliſh*, and moſt of the other *European* languages, intitled, *The Life of* Guſman d'Alfarache; containing an Account of many cheats and rogueries which this ſame *Guſman* is related to have practiſed. In imitation of this book, Mr. *Richard Head*, who wrote a Play or two, and is mentioned by *Winſtanley* as a poet, publiſhed the *Engliſh Rogue*, *deſcribed in the Life of* Meriton Latroon, *a witty extravagant*, whom he makes to have been a member of a gang of *Gypſies*; the hero of this book was generally called the *Engliſh Guſman*; and there would be no

arbitrators and umpires; and ſo they left this hony-ſuckle hedge, and went to tell fortunes, and cheat, and get more money and lodging in the next village.

When theſe were gone we heard as high a contention amongſt the beggars, whether it was eaſieſt to rip a cloak, or to unrip a cloak? one beggar affirmed it was all one. But that was denied, by aſking her, if doing and undoing were all one? then another ſaid, 'twas eaſieſt to unrip a cloak, for that was to let it alone. But ſhe was anſwered, by aſking her, how ſhe unript it, if ſhe let it alone? and ſhe confeſt herſelf miſtaken. Theſe and twenty ſuch like queſtions were propoſed, and anſwered with as much beggarly logick and earneſtneſs, as was ever heard to proceed from the mouth of the moſt pertinacious ſchiſmatick; and ſometimes all the beggars, whoſe number was neither more nor leſs than the poets nine muſes, talked all together about this ripping and unripping, and ſo loud that not one heard what the other ſaid; but at laſt one beggar crav'd audience, and told them, that old father *Clauſe*, whom *Ben Johnſon* in his *Beggar's-buſh* * created king of their corporation, was that night to lodge at an Ale-houſe, called *Catch-her-by-the-way*, not far from *Waltham-croſs*, and in

doubt that *Walton* alludes to it, but that the third edition of *The Complete Angler*, in which this paſſage firſt occurs, was publiſhed in 1664; whereas *The Engliſh Rogue* bears date 1666; if there was any earlier edition, the matter is clear — *Rook* and *Shark* can be only imaginary aſſociates of the *Engliſh Guſman*.

* The Comedy of *The Royal Merchant*; or, *Beggar's-Buſh*, was written by *Beaumont* and *Fletcher*, and not by *Ben. Johnſon*.

the

the high road towards *London*; and he therefore desired them to spend no more time about that and such like questions, but refer all to father *Clause* at night, for he was an upright judge, and in the mean time draw cuts what song should be next sung, and who should sing it; they all agreed to the motion, and the lot fell to her that was the youngest, and veriest virgin of the company, and she sung *Frank Davison*'s song, which he made forty years ago, and all the others of the company joined to sing the burthen with her: the ditty was this, but first the burthen.

Bright shines the sun, play beggars play,
Here's scraps enough to serve to day.

What noise of viols is so sweet
As when our merry clappers ring?
What mirth doth want when beggars meet?
A beggar's life is for a king:
Eat, drink and play, sleep when we list,
Go where we will so stocks be mist.
Bright shines the sun, play beggars play,
Here's scraps enough to serve to day.

The world is ours and ours alone,
For we alone have world at will;
We purchase not, all is our own,
Both fields and streets we beggars fill:
Bright shines the Sun, play beggars play,
Here's scraps enough to serve to day.

A hundred herds of black and white
Upon our gowns securely feed;
And yet if any dare us bite,
He dies therefore as sure as creed:

Thus

Thus beggars lord it as they pleaſe,
And only beggars live at eaſe:
Bright ſhines the ſun, play beggars play,
Here's ſcraps enough to ſerve to day.

Ven. I thank you, good Maſter, for this piece of merriment, and this ſong, which was well humoured by the maker, and well remembred by you.

Piſc. But I pray forget not the catch which you promiſed to make againſt night, for our countryman, honeſt *Coridon*, will expect your catch and my ſong, which I muſt be forced to patch up, for it is ſo long ſince I learnt it, that I have forgot a part of it. But come, now it hath done raining, let's ſtretch our legs a little in a gentle walk to the river, and try what intereſt our Angles will pay us for lending them ſo long to be uſed by the Trouts; lent them indeed, like uſurers, for our profit and their deſtruction.

Ven. Oh me, look you Maſter, a fiſh a fiſh, oh las Maſter, I have loſt her!

Piſc. I marry, Sir, that was a good fiſh indeed: if I had had the luck to have taken up that rod, then 'tis twenty to one, he ſhould not have broke my line by running to the rods end as you ſuffered him. I would have held him within the bent of my rod, unleſs he had been fellow to the great Trout that is near an ell long, which was of ſuch a length and depth, that he had his picture drawn, and now is to be ſeen at mine Hoſt *Rickabie*'s at the *George* in *Ware*; and it may be, by giving that very great Trout the rod, that is, by caſting it to him into the water, I might have caught him at the long run; for ſo

I uſe always to do when I meet with an overgrown fiſh, and you will learn to do ſo too hereafter: for I tell you, Scholar, fiſhing is an art, or at leaſt, it is an art to catch fiſh.

Ven. But Maſter, I have heard that the great Trout you ſpeak of is a Salmon.

Piſc. Truſt me, Scholar, I know not what to ſay to it. There are many country people that believe Hares change ſexes every year: And there be very many learned men think ſo too, for in their diſſecting them they find many reaſons to incline them to that belief. And to make the wonder ſeem yet leſs, that Hares change ſexes, note that Doctor *Mer. Caſaubon* affirms in his book of credible and incredible things, that *Gaſper Peucerus*, a learned phyſician *, tells us of a people that once a year turn wolves, partly in ſhape, and partly in conditions. And ſo whether this were a Salmon when he came into freſh water, and his not returning into the ſea hath altered him to another colour or kind, I am not able to ſay; but I am certain he hath all the ſigns of being a Trout both for his ſhape, colour, and ſpots, and yet many think he is not.

Ven. But Maſter, will this Trout which I had hold of die? for it is like he hath the hook in his belly.

Piſc. I will tell you, Scholar, that unleſs the hook be faſt in his very gorge, tis more than probable he will live, and a little time with the help of the water, will ruſt the hook, and it will in time wear away; as the gravel doth

* And Mathematician, born at *Luſatia*, 1525, he married the daughter of *Melanæthon*; wrote many books on various ſubjects, and died 1602, aged 78.

in

in the horſe-hoof, which only leaves a falſe quarter.

And now, Scholar, let's go to my rod. Look you, Scholar, I have a fiſh too, but it proves a logger-headed Chub, and this is not much amiſs, for this will pleaſure ſome poor body, as we go to our lodging to meet our brother *Peter* and honeſt *Coridon*. Come, now bait your hook again, and lay it into the water, for it rains again; and we will ev'n retire to the ſycamore-tree, and there I will give you more directions concerning fiſhing: for I would fain make you an artiſt.

Ven. Yes, good Maſter, I pray let it be ſo.

Piſc. Well, Scholar, now we are ſate down and are at eaſe, I ſhall tell you a little more of Trout-fiſhing, before I ſpeak of the Salmon, which I purpoſe ſhall be next, and then of the Pike or Luce. You are to know, there is night as well as day fiſhing for a Trout *, and that in the night the beſt Trouts come out of their holes: and the manner of taking them is, on the top of the water with a great lob or garden-worm, or rather two, which you are to fiſh with in a place where the waters run ſomewhat quietly, for in a ſtream the bait will not be ſo well diſcerned. I ſay in a quiet or dead place near to ſome ſwift, there draw your bait over the top of the water, to and fro, and if there be a good Trout in the hole, he will take it, eſpecially if the night be dark: for then he is bold and lies near the top

* The reader is not to expect, in the notes on this work, any additional directions relative to Night-fiſhing; a very unwholſome practice, and followed by few except poachers; who are fond of it becauſe it looks like ſtealing.

of the water, watching the motion of any frog or water rat or mouſe that ſwims betwixt him and the ſkie; theſe he hunts after, if he ſees the water but wrinkle, or move in one of theſe dead holes, where theſe great old Trouts uſually lie near to their holds; for you are to note, that the great old Trout is both ſubtil and fearful, and lies cloſe all day, and does not uſually ſtir out of his hold, but lies in it as cloſe in the day, as the timorous Hare does in her form: for the chief feeding of either is ſeldom in the day, but uſually in the night, and then the great Trouts feed very boldly.

And you muſt fiſh for him with a ſtrong line, and not a little hook, and let him have time to gorge your hook, for he does not uſually forſake it, as he oft will in the day-fiſhing: and if the night be not dark, then fiſh ſo with an artificial flie of a light colour, and at the ſnap: nay, he will ſometimes riſe at a dead mouſe, or a piece of cloth, or any thing, that ſeems to ſwims croſs the water, or to be in motion: this is a choice way, but I have not oft uſed it, becauſe it is void of the pleaſures, that ſuch days as theſe, that we two now enjoy, afford an Angler.

And you are to know, that in *Hampſhire*, which I think exceeds all *England* for ſwift, ſhallow, clear, pleaſant brooks, and ſtore of Trouts, they uſe to catch Trouts in the night, by the light of a torch or ſtraw, which when they have diſcovered, they ſtrike with a Trout-ſpear or other wayes. This kind of way they catch very many, but I would not believe it till I was an eye-witneſs of it, nor do I like it now I have ſeen it.

Venat.

Venat. But, Maſter, do not Trouts ſee us in the night?

Piſc. Yes, and hear, and ſmell too, both then and in the day time; for *Geſner* obſerves, the Otter ſmells a fiſh forty furlongs off him in the water: and that it may be true, ſeems to be affirmed by Sir *Francis Bacon*, in the eighth century of his natural hiſtory, who there proves that waters may be the Medium of ſounds, by demonſtrating it thus, "That if you knock two "ſtones together very deep under the water, "thoſe that ſtand on a bank near to that place "may hear the noiſe without any diminution of "it by the water". He alſo offers the like experiment concerning the letting an Anchor fall by a very long cable or rope on a rock, or the ſand within the ſea: and this being ſo well obſerved and demonſtrated, as it is by that learned man, has made me to believe that Eeles unbed themſelves, and ſtir at the noiſe of thunder, and not only, as ſome think, by the motion or ſtirring of the earth which is occaſioned by that thunder.

And this reaſon of Sir *Francis Bacon*, *Exper.* 792. has made me crave pardon of one that I laught at for affirming, that he knew Carps come to a certain place in a pond, to be fed at the ringing of a bell, or the beating of a drum: and however, it ſhall be a rule for me to make as little noiſe as I can when I am fiſhing, untill Sir *Francis Bacon* be confuted, which I ſhall give any man leave to do *.

* That fiſh hear, is confirmed by the authority of late writers; *Swammerdam* aſſerts it, and adds, that "they "have a wonderful labyrinth of the ear for that purpoſe." See *Swammerdam* of inſects. Edit. *London*, 1758. P. 50.

And,

And, leaſt you may think him ſingular in this opinion, I will tell you, this ſeems to be believed by our learned doctor, *Hakewill*, who in his *Apology of God's power and providence* *, f. 360, quotes *Pliny* to report, that one of the emperors had particular fiſh-ponds, and in them ſeveral fiſh, that appeared and came when they were called by their particular names †: and St. *James* tells us, chap. 1. and 7. that all things in the ſea have been tamed by mankind. And *Pliny* tells us, *Lib* 9. 35. that *Antonia*, the wife of *Druſus*, had a Lamprey, at whoſe gills ſhe hung jewels or ear-rings: and that others have been ſo tender-hearted, as to ſhed tears at the death of fiſhes, which they have kept and loved. And theſe obſervations, which will to moſt hearers ſeem wonderful, ſeem to have a further confirmation from *Martial*, *Lib.* 4. *Epigr.* 30 ‖. who writes thus:

Piſcator fuge ne nocens, &c.

Angler,

* This book, which was publiſhed in folio, 1635, and is full of excellent learning and good ſenſe, contains an examination and cenſure of that common error which Philoſophers have fallen into, "That there is in nature a perpetual and univer- "ſal decay;" the contrary whereof, after an extenſive view of the hiſtory of the phyſical and moral world, and a judicious and impartial compariſon of former ages with that wherein the author lived, is, with great force of argument, demonſtrated. The reader may, in this book, meet with a relation of that inſtance of Lord *Cromwell*'s gratitude to Sig. *Freſcobaldi*, a *Florentine* merchant, which is contained in the hiſtory of *Thomas* Lord *Cromwell*, publiſh'd as *Shakeſpear*'s by ſome of the earlier editors of his works.

† Monſ. *Bernier*, in his hiſtory of *Indoſtan*, reports the like of the Great *Mogul*.

‖ The epigram, at length, is as follows:

Piſcator, *fuge*, *ne nocens recedas*,
Sacris piſcibus hæ natantur undæ,

Qui

Angler, *would'ſt thou be guiltleſs? then forbear,*
For theſe are ſacred fiſhes that ſwim here;
Who know their ſovereign, and will lick his hand:
Than which none's greater in the world's command:
Nay more, th'have names, & when they called are,
Do to their ſeveral owners call repair.

All the further uſe that I ſhall make of this, ſhall be, to adviſe Anglers to be patient, and forbear ſwearing, leſt they be heard and catch no fiſh.

And ſo I ſhall proceed next to tell you, it is certain, that certain fields near *Lemſter*, a Town in *Herefordſhire*, are obſerved to make the ſheep that graze upon them more fat than the next, and alſo to bear finer wool; that is to ſay, that that year in which they feed in ſuch a particular paſture, they ſhall yield finer wool than they did that year before they came to feed in it, and courſer again if they ſhall return to their former paſture; and again return to a finer wool, being fed in the fine-wool ground. Which I tell you, that you may the better believe that I am certain, if I catch a Trout in one meadow he ſhall be white and faint, and very like to be lowſie; and as certainly, if I catch a Trout in the next meadow, he ſhall be ſtrong, and red, and luſty, and much better meat: truſt me, Scholar, I have caught many a Trout in a particular meadow, that the very ſhape and the enamell'd colour of

Qui norunt dominum, manumque lambunt,
Illam qua nihil eſt in orbe majus
Quid, quod nomen habent; et ad magiſtri
Vocem quiſque ſui venit citatus?

him

him hath been ſuch, as hath joyed me to look on him: and I have then with much pleaſure concluded with *Solomon*, "Every thing is beau-"tiful in his ſeaſon."

I ſhould by promiſe ſpeak next of the Salmon, but I will by your favour ſay a little of the Umber or Grayling; which is ſo like a Trout for his ſhape and feeding, that I deſire I may exerciſe your patience with a ſhort diſcourſe of him, and then the next ſhall be of the Salmon *.

CHAP.

* The Trout delights in ſmall purling rivers and brooks with gravelly bottoms and a ſwift ſtream; his *haunts* are an eddy, behind a ſtone, a log, or a bank that projects forward into the river, and againſt which the ſtream drives; a ſhallow between two ſtreams, or, towards the latter-end of the Summer, a mill tail. His hold is uſually in the deep, under the hollow of a bank, or the root of a tree.

The Trout *ſpawns* about the beginning of *November*, and does not recover till the beginning of *March*.

Walton has been ſo particular on the ſubject of Trout-fiſhing, that he has left very little room to ſay any thing by way of annotation with reſpect to *Baits*, or the method of taking this fiſh; yet there are ſome directions and obſervations pertinent to this chapter, which it would not be conſiſtent with the intended copiouſneſs and accuracy of this work to omit.

When you fiſh for large Trout or Salmon, a winch of the ſhape of Fig. 4, Plate IX. will be very uſeful: upon the rod with which you uſe the winch, whip a number of ſmall rings of about an eighth of an inch diameter, and at firſt about two foot diſtant from each other; but afterwards diminiſhing gradually in their diſtances till you come to the end: the winch muſt be ſcrewed on to the butt of your rod, and round the barrel let there be wound eight or ten yards of wove-hair, or ſilk line: when you have ſtruck a fiſh that may endanger your tackle, let the line run, and wind him up as he tires.

You will find great convenience in a ſpike made of a piece of the greater end of a ſword-blade, ſcrewed into the hither

CHAP. VI.

Observations of the UMBER *or* GRAYLING, *and Directions how to fish for them.*

PISCATOR.

THE Umber and Grayling are thought by some to differ as the Herring and Pilcher do. But though they may do so in other nations, I think those in *England* differ nothing but in their names. *Aldrovandus* says, they be of a Trout kind: and *Gesner* says, that in his country, which is *Switzerland*, he is accounted the choicest of all fish. And in *Italy*, he is in the month of *May* so highly valued, that he is sold then at a much higher rate than any other fish. The *French* which call the Chub *Un Villain*, call the Umber of the lake *Leman*, *Un Umble Chevalier*;

end of the butt of your rod: when you have struck a fish retire backwards from the river, and, by means of the spike, stick the rod perpendicular in the ground, you may then lay hold on the line, and draw the fish to you, as you see proper.

When you angle for a Trout, whether with a fly or at the ground, you need make but three or four trials in a place; which, if unsuccessful, you may conclude there are none there.

Walton, in speaking of the several rivers where Trout are found, has made no mention of the *Kennet*; which, undoubtedly, produces as good and as many Trouts as any river in *England*. In the reign of King *Charles* the Second, a Trout was taken in that river near *Newbury*, with a casting-net, which measured forty five inches in length.

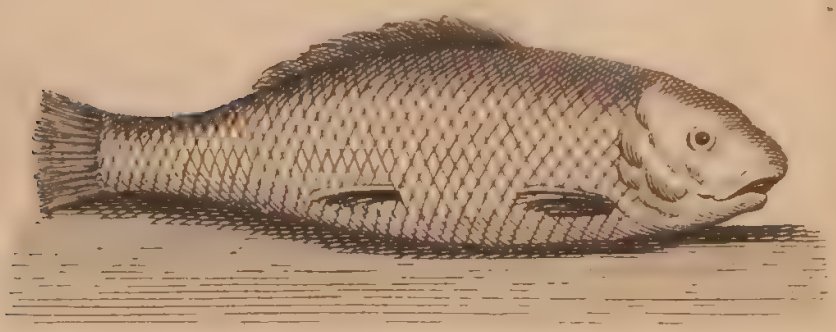
and

and they value the Umber or Grayling ſo highly, that they ſay he feeds on gold, and ſay that many have been caught out of their famous river of *Loire*, out of whoſe bellies grains of gold have been often taken. And ſome think that he feeds on Water-thyme, and ſmells of it at his firſt taking out of the water; and they may think ſo with as good reaſon as we do, that our ſmelts ſmell like violets at their being firſt caught; which I think is a truth. *Aldrovandus* ſays, the Salmon, the Grayling, and Trout, and all fiſh that live in clear and ſharp ſtreams, are made by their mother Nature of ſuch exact ſhape and pleaſant colours, purpoſely to invite us to a joy and contentedneſs in feaſting with her. Whether this is a truth or not, is not my purpoſe to diſpute; but 'tis certain, all that write of the Umber declare him to be very medicinable. And *Geſner* ſays, that the fat of an Umber or Grayling being ſet with a little honey, a day or two in the ſun in a little glaſs, is very excellent againſt redneſs, or ſwarthineſs, or any thing that breeds in the eyes. *Salvian** takes him to be called Umber from his ſwift ſwimming or gliding out of ſight, more like a ſhadow or a Ghoſt than a fiſh. Much more might be ſaid both of his ſmell and taſte, but I ſhall only tell you, that St. *Ambroſe*, the glorious biſhop of *Milan*, who lived when the church kept faſting-days, calls him the flower-fiſh, or flower of fiſhes, and that he was ſo far in love with him, that he would not let him paſs with-

* *Hippolito Salviani*, an *Italian* Phyſician, of the ſixteenth century; he wrote a treatiſe, *de Piſcibus cum eorum figuris*; and died at *Rome* 1572, aged 59.

out the honour of a long diſcourſe; but I muſt; and paſs on to tell you how to take this dainty fiſh.

GRAYLING



Firſt, Note, that he grows not to the bigneſs of a Trout; for the biggeſt of them do not uſually exceed eighteen inches; he lives in ſuch rivers as the Trout does, and is uſually taken with the ſame baits as the Trout is, and after the ſame manner, for he will bite both at the Minnow, or Worm, or Fly, though he bites not often at the Minnow, and is very gameſom at the Fly, and much ſimpler, and therefore bolder than a Trout; for he will riſe twenty times at a fly, if you miſs him, and yet riſe again. He has been taken with a fly made of the red feathers of a *Parakita*, a ſtrange outlandiſh bird, and he will riſe at a fly not unlike a gnat or a ſmall moth, or indeed, at moſt flies that are not too big. He is a fiſh that lurks cloſe all winter, but is very

very pleaſant and jolly after mid-*April*, and in *May*, and in the hot months: he is of a very fine ſhape, his fleſh is white, his teeth, thoſe little ones that he has, are in his throat, yet he has ſo tender a mouth, that he is oftner loſt after an Angler has hooked him, than any other fiſh. Though there be many of theſe fiſhes in the delicate river *Dove*, and in *Trent*, and ſome other ſmaller rivers, as that which runs by *Saliſbury*, yet he is not ſo general a fiſh as the Trout, nor to me ſo good to eat or to Angle for. And ſo I ſhall take my leave of him, and now come to ſome obſervations of the Salmon, and how to catch him *.

CHAP.

* The *haunts* of the Grayling are ſo nearly the ſame with thoſe of the Trout, that in fiſhing for either you may, in many rivers, catch both.

They *ſpawn* about the beginning of *April*, when they lie moſtly in ſharp ſtreams.

Baits for the Grayling are chiefly the ſame as thoſe for the Trout, except the Minnow, which he will not take ſo freely. He will alſo take Gentles very eagerly. When you fiſh for him with a Fly, you can hardly uſe one too ſmall.

The Grayling is much more apt to riſe than deſcend; therefore, when you angle for him alone, and not for the Trout, rather uſe a float, with the bait from ſix to nine inches from the bottom, than the running-line.

The Grayling is found in great plenty in many rivers in the North, particularly the *Humber*; and in the *Wye*, which runs through *Monmouthſhire* and *Herefordſhire* into the *Severn*, I have taken, with an artificial fly, very large ones; as alſo great numbers of a ſmall, but excellent fiſh, of the Trout kind, called a *Laſt-ſpring*; of which ſomewhat will be ſaid in a ſubſequent note. They are not eaſily to be got at without a boat, or wading; for which reaſon thoſe of that country uſe a thing they call a *Thurrocle*, or *Truckle*; in ſome places it is called a *Cobble*, from the *Latin Corbula*, a little baſket:

CHAP. VII.

Obſervations of the SALMON *with directions how to fiſh for him.*

PISCATOR.

THE Salmon is accounted the King of of freſh-water fiſh, and is ever bred in rivers relating to the ſea, yet ſo high or far from it as admits of no tincture of ſalt, or brackiſhneſs; he is ſaid to breed or caſt his ſpawn in moſt rivers, in the month of *Auguſt*: ſome ſay that then they dig a hole or grave in a ſafe place in the gravel, and there place their eggs or ſpawn, after the melter has done his natural Office, and then hide it moſt cunningly, and cover it over with gravel and ſtones; and then leave it to their creator's protection, who

baſket: it is a baſket ſhaped like the half of a walnut-ſhell, but ſhallower in proportion, and covered on the outſide with a Horſe's hide: it has a bench in the middle, and will juſt hold one perſon, and is ſo light that the countrymen will hang it on their heads like a hood, and ſo travel with a ſmall peddle, which ſerves for a ſtick, till they come to a river; and then they launch it, and ſtep in: there is great difficulty in getting into one of thoſe Truckles; for the inſtant you touch it with your foot, it flies from you; and when you are in, the leaſt inclination of the body overſets it. It is very diverting to ſee how upright a man is forced to ſit in theſe veſſels, and to mark with what ſtate and ſolemnity he draws up the ſtone which ſerves for an anchor, when he would remove, and lets it down again: however, it is a ſort of navigation that I would wiſh our piſcatory diſciple never to attempt.

by

by a gentle heat, which he infuſes into that cold element, makes it brood and beget life in the ſpawn, and to become Samlets early in the ſpring next following.

The Salmons having ſpent their appointed time, and done this natural duty in the freſh waters; they then haſte to the ſea before winter; both the melter and ſpawner: but, if they be ſtopt by Flood-gates or Weires, or loſt in the freſh waters; then, thoſe ſo left behind, by degrees grow ſick and lean, and unſeaſonable and kipper; that is to ſay, have bony griſtles grow out of their lower chaps, not unlike a hawk's beak, which hinders their feeding, and in time ſuch fiſh ſo left behind, pine away and dye. 'Tis obſerved, that he may live thus one year from the ſea; but he then grows inſipid, and taſteleſs, and loſes both his blood and ſtrength, and pines and dies the ſecond year. And 'tis noted, that thoſe little Salmons called Skeggers, which abound in many rivers relating to the ſea, are bred by ſuch ſick Salmons, that might not go to the ſea, and that though they abound, yet they never thrive to any conſiderable bigneſs.

But if the old Salmon gets to the ſea, then that griſtle which ſhews him to be kipper, wears away, or is caſt off, as the Eagle is ſaid to caſt his bill, and he recovers his ſtrength, and comes next ſummer to the ſame river, if it be poſſible, to enjoy the former pleaſures that there poſſeſt him *; for, as one has wittily obſerved, he has like

* The migration of the Salmon, and divers other ſorts of fiſhes, is analogous to that of birds; and Mr. *Ray* confirms *Walton*'s aſſertion by ſaying, that "Salmon will yearly aſ-

like ſome perſons of honour and riches, which have both their winter and ſummer houſes, the freſh rivers for ſummer, and the ſalt water for winter, to ſpend his life in; which is not, as Sir *Francis Bacon* hath obſerved in his *Hiſtory of life and Death*, above ten years: and it is to be obſerved, that though the Salmon does grow big in the ſea, yet he grows not fat but in freſh rivers; and it is obſerved, that the farther they get from the ſea, they be both the fatter and better.

Next, I ſhall tell you, that though they make very hard ſhift to get out of the freſh rivers into the ſea: yet they will make harder ſhift to get out of the ſalt into the freſh rivers, to ſpawn, or poſſeſs the pleaſures that they have formerly found in them: to which end, they will force themſelves through Flood-gates, or over Weires, or hedges, or ſtops in the water, even to a height beyond common belief. *Geſner* ſpeaks of ſuch places, as are known to be above eight foot high above water. And our *Camden* mentions in his *Britannia* the like wonder to be in *Pembroke-ſhire*, where the river *Tivy* falls into the ſea, and that the fall is ſo down-right, and ſo high, that the people ſtand and wonder at the ſtrength and flight by which they ſee the Salmon uſe to get

" cend up a river four or five hundred miles, only to caſt their " ſpawn, and ſecure it in banks of ſand till the young be " hatched and excluded, and then return to ſea again." *Wiſdom of God manifeſted in the works of the creation.* 130.

It may not be improper here to take notice, that in this, and ſeveral other parts of the book, the facts related by the author, do moſt remarkably coincide with later diſcoveries of the moſt diligent and ſagacious Naturaliſts; a circumſtance that muſt add great weight to all his aſſertions.

out

out of the ſea into the ſaid river; and the manner and height of the place is ſo notable, that it is known far by the name of the *Salmon-leap*; concerning which, take this alſo out of *Michael Drayton* *, my honeſt old friend. As he tells it you in his *Polyolbion*. †

And when the Salmon ſeeks a freſher ſtream to find,
Which hither from the Sea comes yearly by his kind.
As he tow'rds ſeaſon grows, & ſtems the watry tract
Where Tivy *falling down, makes an high cataract,*
Forc'd by the riſing rocks that there her courſe oppoſe,
As tho within her bounds they meant her to incloſe;
Here, when the labouring fiſh does at the foot arive,
And finds that by his ſtrength he does but vainly ſtrive;
His tail takes in his mouth, & bending like a bow
That's to full compaſs drawn, aloft himſelf doth throw,

* An excellent Poet, born in *Warwickſhire*, 1563. Among his works, which are very numerous, is the *Poly-Olbion*, a chorographical deſcription of the rivers, mountains, foreſts, caſtles, &c. in this iſland. Though this poem has great merit, it is rendered much more valuable by the learned notes of Mr. *Selden*. The author died in 1631, and lies buried among the poets in *Weſtminſter* abbey.

† Dr. *Warburton*, in the preface to his *Shakeſpeare*, ſpeaking of this poem, ſays it was written by *one Drayton*, a mode of expreſſion very common with great men when they mean to conſign the memory of others over to oblivion and contempt. Biſhop *Burnet* ſpeaking of the negotiations previous to the peace of *Utrecht*, ſays in like manner, that "*one* "*Prior* was employ'd to finiſh the treaty." But both theſe gentlemen, in this their witty application of an innocent monoſyllable, were but imitators of the *Swediſh* ambaſſador, who complained to *Whitlock*, that a treaty had been ſent to be tranſlated by *one Mr.* Milton, *a blind man*. Whit. *Mem.* 633.

Then

Then ſpringing at his height, as doth a little wand,
That bended end to end, & ſtarted from man's hand,
Far off itſelf doth caſt; ſo, does the Salmon vault,
And if at firſt he fail, his ſecond Summer-ſalt *
He inſtantly eſſaies, and from his nimble ring:
Still yerking, never leaves untill himſelf he ſling
Above the oppoſing ſtream.——

This *Michael Drayton* tells you of this leap or ſummer-ſalt of the Salmon.

And next I ſhall tell you, that it is obſerved by *Geſner* and others, that there is no better Salmon than in *England:* and that though ſome of our northern countries have as fat and as large as the River *Thames*, yet none are of ſo excellent a taſte.

And as I have told you that Sir *Francis Bacon* obſerves, the age of a Salmon exceeds not ten years, ſo let me next tell you, that his growth is very ſudden: it is ſaid, that after he is got into the ſea, he becomes from a Samlet, not ſo big as a Gudgeon, to be a Salmon, in as ſhort a time as a goſling becomes to be a gooſe. Much of this has been obſerved by tying a ribband or ſome known tape or thred, in the tail of ſome young Salmons, which have been taken in Weires as they have ſwimmed towards the ſalt water, and then by taking a part of them again with the known mark at the ſame place at their return from the ſea, which is uſually about ſix months

* *Sautmerſault*, or *Summerſet*, from *Soubreſault*, *Fr.* A high leap, in which the heels are thrown over the head. *Johnſ.* Dict. To throw a Summerſet, is a phraſe common with tumblers.

after;

after; and the like experiment hath been tryed upon young ſwallows, who have, after ſix months abſence, been obſerved to return to the ſame chimney, there to make their neſts and habitations for the ſummer following: which has inclined many to think, that every Salmon uſually returns to the ſame river in which it was bred, as young Pigeons taken out of the ſame Dovecote have alſo been obſerved to do.

And you are yet to obſerve further, that the he-Salmon is uſually bigger than the Spawner, and that he is more kipper, and leſs able to endure a winter in the freſh water, than ſhe is, yet ſhe is at that time of looking leſs kipper and better, as watry, and as bad meat.

And yet you are to obſerve, that as there is no general rule without an exception, ſo there are ſome few rivers in this nation, that have Trouts and Salmons in ſeaſon in winter, as 'tis certain there be in the river *Wye* in *Monmouthſhire*, where they be in ſeaſon, as *Camden* obſerves, from *September* till *April*. But, my Scholar, the obſervation of this and many other things, I muſt in manners omit, becauſe they will prove too large for our narrow compaſs of time, and therefore I ſhall next fall upon my direction how to fiſh for this

SALMON

And for that, firſt you ſhall obſerve, that uſually he ſtays not long in a place as Trouts will, but, as I ſaid, covets ſtill to go neareſt the ſpring-head; and that he does not as the Trout, and many other fiſh, lie near the water-ſide or bank or roots of trees, but ſwims in the deep and broad parts of the water, and uſually in the middle, and near the ground, and that there you are to fiſh for him, and that it is to be caught as the Trout is, with a worm, a Minnow, which ſome call a Penk, or with a flie.

And you are to obſerve, that he is very ſeldom obſerved to bite at a Minnow, yet ſometimes he will, and not uſually at a flie, but more uſually at a worm, and then moſt uſually at a lob or garden-worm, which ſhould be well ſcoured, that is to ſay, kept ſeven or eight days in moſs before you fiſh with them: and if you double your time of eight into ſixteen, twenty, or more days, it

it is ſtill the better, for the worms will ſtill be clearer, tougher, and more lively, and continue ſo longer upon your hook, and they may be kept longer by keeping them cool and in freſh moſs, and ſome adviſe to put camphire into it.

Note alſo, that many uſe to fiſh for a Salmon with a ring of wire on the top of their rod, through which the line may run to as great a length as is needful when he is hooked. And to that end, ſome uſe a wheel about the middle of their rod, or near their hand, which is to be obſerved better by ſeeing one of them, than by a large demonſtration of words.

And now I ſhall tell you, that which may be called a ſecret: I have been a fiſhing with old *Oliver Henley*, now with God, a noted Fiſher both for Trout and Salmon, and have obſerved, that he would uſually take three or four worms out of his bag, and put them into a little box in his pocket, where he would uſually let them continue half an hour or more, before he would bait his hook with them; I have aſked him his reaſon, and he has replyed, "He did but pick "the beſt out to be in readineſs againſt he baited "his hook the next time:" But he has been obſerved both by others, and myſelf, to catch more fiſh than I or any other body that has ever gone a fiſhing with him could do; and eſpecially Salmons; and I have been told lately by one of his moſt intimate and ſecret friends, that the box in which he put thoſe worms, was anointed with a drop, or two or three, of the oyl of Ivy-berries, made by expreſſion or infuſion; and told that by the worms remaining in that box an hour, or a like time, they had incorporated a kind of ſmell

that

that was irreſiſtibly attractive, enough to force any fiſh within the ſmell of them, to bite. This I heard not long ſince from a friend, but have not tryed it; yet I grant it probable, and refer my reader to Sir *Francis Bacon*'s natural hiſtory, where he proves fiſhes may hear, and doubtleſs can more probably ſmell: and I am certain *Geſner* ſays, the Otter can ſmell in the water, and I know not but that fiſh may do ſo too: 'tis left for a lover of Angling, or any that deſires to improve that art, to try this concluſion.

I ſhall alſo impart two other experiments, but not tryed by myſelf, which I will deliver in the ſame words that they were given me by an excellent Angler and a very friend, in writing; he told me the latter was too good to be told, but in a learned language, leſt it ſhould be made common.

"Take the ſtinking oil, drawn out of Polypody of the oak by a retort, mixt with turpentine, and hive-honey, and anoint your bait therewith, and it will doubtleſs draw the fiſh to it."

The other is this: *Vulnera hederæ grandiſſimæ inflicta ſudant Balſamum oleo gelato, albicantique perſimile, odoris vero longe ſuaviſſimi.*

'Tis ſupremely ſweet to any fiſh, and yet *Aſſa-fætida* may do the like *.

But

* There is extant, though I have never been able to get a ſight of it, a book intitled, *The ſecrets of Angling, by* J. D. at the end of which is the following myſtical recipe of *R. R.* who poſſibly may be the *R. Ro.* mentioned in the preface.

To bliſs thy bait, and make the fiſh to bite,
Lo! here's a means, if thou canſt hit it right:

Take

But in theſe things I have no great faith, yet grant it probable, and have had from ſome chymical men, namely, from Sir *George Haſtings* and others, an affirmation of them to be very advantageous: but no more of theſe, eſpecially not in this place.

I might here, before I take my leave of the Salmon, tell you, that there is more than one ſort of them, as namely, a Tecon, and another called in ſome places a Samlet, or by ſome, a Skegger: but theſe and others, which I forbear to name, may be fiſh of another kind, and differ, as we know a Herring and a Pilcher do *, which I think are as different, as the rivers in which they breed, and muſt by me be left to the diſquiſitions

Take Gum of Life, well beat and laid to ſoak
In oil well drawn from that † *which kills the oak.* † Ivy
Fiſh where thou wilt, thou ſhalt have ſport thy fill;
When others fail, thou ſhalt be ſure to kill.

The ingenious author of *The Angler's ſure guide*, publiſhed in 8vo. 1706, in the preface, and elſewhere, aſcribes this book to "that great practitioner, maſter and patron of Angling, Dr. *Donne*." I could wiſh, for the honour of Angling, that theſe appellations were juſt; but I confeſs I doubt as much whether he was an Angler, as I do his being the author of the above book; neither of which circumſtances would, I think, have been omitted by *Walton*, had the facts been true.

* There is a fiſh, in many rivers, of the Salmon kind, which, though very ſmall, is thought by ſome curious perſons to be of the ſame ſpecies; and this, I take it, is the fiſh known by the different names of *Salmon-Pink*, *Shedders*, *Skeggers*, *Laſt-Springs*, and *Gravel Laſt-Springs*. But there is another ſmall fiſh, very much reſembling theſe in ſhape and colour, called the *Gravel Laſt-Spring*, found only in the rivers *Wye* and *Severn*; which is, undoubtedly, a diſtinct ſpecies,

ſitions of men of more leiſure, and of greater abilities, than I profeſs myſelf to have.

And laſtly, I am to borrow ſo much of your promiſed patience, as to tell you that the Trout or Salmon being in ſeaſon, have at their firſt taking out of the water, which continues during life, their bodies adorned, the one with ſuch red

cies: Theſe ſpawn about the beginning of *September*, and in the *Wye* I have taken them with an Ant-fly as faſt as I could throw. Perhaps this is what *Walton* calls the *Tecon*. A very experienced Angler, and a writer on the ſubject of Fly-fiſhing, whom we have often quoted, ſpeaking of this fiſh, has the following paſſage; "I had the curioſity of opening "ſome of them, and found them to be full of *Male*-ſpawn "near ſhedding; but never could perceive any *Female*-"ſpawn: I therefore am certain this muſt be a Species of it-"ſelf, as having ſpawn, but cannot account for this fiſh ha-"ving no *Female*-ſpawn which may be diſcerned. Many "have been of opinion that they are the Spawn of the ſick "Salmon, which cannot get out of the freſh Rivers to ſea, "and being the offſpring of a weak ſeed or generation, is "the reaſon of their diminutive ſize, and incapacity of "breeding again: but I take this to be an Error; becauſe "the Salmon ever ſpawn when in perfect health only, before "their time of going to ſea, and ſpawn no more till their "next return to ſea, thereby to be purged and cleanſed by "the ſalt water, they pine away, and die in their impriſon-"ment, either by exceſſive cold in freſh water, or for want of "purgation or both: now the purging of the ſalt water may "as well be a reaſon why Salmon grow ſo faſt, as the want "thereof the cauſe why they pine away and die ſo ſoon, "when confined to freſh rivers; for Salmon being a fiſh of "prey, and great feeders, nature directs them to ſalt-water, "as phyſick, to purge and cleanſe them, not only from their "impurities after ſpawning, but from all their muddy and "groſs humours acquired by their exceſſive feeding all the "ſummer in freſh rivers, and hardens their fat and fleſh; "which makes them not only grow the faſter, but alſo be-"come the more wholeſome food, ſavoury and grateful to "mankind." *Bowlker*'s Art of Angling. 7.

ſpots,

ſpots, and the other with ſuch black or blackiſh ſpots, as give them ſuch an addition of natural beauty, as I think, was never given to any woman by the artificial paint or patches in which they ſo much pride themſelves in this age. And ſo I ſhall leave them both * and proceed to ſome obſervations on the Pike.

CHAP. VIII.

Obſervations of the LUCE *or* PIKE, *with directions how to fiſh for him.*

PISCATOR.

THE mighty Luce or Pike is taken to be the tyrant, as the Salmon is the King of the freſh waters: 'Tis not to be doubted, but that they are bred, ſome by generation, and ſome not: as namely, of a weed called *Pickerel-weed*, unleſs learned *Geſner* be much miſtaken; for he ſays, this weed and other glutinous matter, with the

* The Salmon delights in large rapid rivers, eſpecially ſuch as have pebly, gravelly, and ſometimes weedy bottoms.

Their uſual time of *Spawning* is about the beginning of *September*; but it is ſaid that thoſe in the *Severn* ſpawn in *May*.

Baits for Salmon are, Lob-worms for the ground, ſmaller worms and bobs, cad bait, and indeed moſt of the baits taken by the Trout, at the top of the water: and as to flies, remember to make them of the moſt gaudy colours, and very large.

the help of the ſun's heat in ſome particular months, and ſome ponds apted for it by nature, do become Pikes. But doubtleſs divers Pikes are bred after this manner, or are brought into ſome ponds ſome ſuch other wayes as is paſt man's finding out, of which we have daily teſtimonies.

Sir *Francis Bacon* in his hiſtory of life and death, obſerves the Pike to be the longeſt lived of any freſh-water-fiſh, and yet he computes it to be not uſually above forty years; and others think it to be not above ten years; and yet *Geſner* mentions a Pike taken in *Swedeland* in the Year 1449, with a ring about his neck, declaring he was put into that pond by *Frederick* the ſecond, more than two hundred years before he was laſt taken, as by the Inſcription in that ring, being *Greek*, was interpreted by the then Biſhop of *Worms*. But of this no more, but that it is obſerved, that the old or very great Pikes have in them more of ſtate than goodneſs; the ſmaller or middle-ſized Pikes being by the moſt and choiceſt palates obſerved to be the beſt meat; and contrary, the Eel is obſerved to be the better for age and bigneſs.

large. There is a fly called the *Horſe-leech* fly, which he is very fond of; they are of various colours, have great heads, large bodies, very long tails, and two, and ſome have three, pair of wings, placed behind each other: behind each pair of wings whip the body about with gold or ſilver twiſt, or both, and do the ſame by the head; with this fly fiſh at length, as for Trout and Grayling: but if you dib, do it with two or three Butter-flies, of different colours, or with ſome of the moſt glaring ſmall flies you can find.

The *Winch* is peculiarly appropriated to fly-fiſhing: The manner of uſing it you will find in the additional directions for taking the Trout.

All

All Pikes that live long prove chargeable to their keepers, becauſe their life is maintained by the death of ſo many other fiſh, even thoſe of their own kind, which has made him by ſome writers to be called the Tyrant of the Rivers, or the Freſh-water-wolf, by reaſon of his bold, greedy, devouring diſpoſition, which is ſo keen, as *Geſner* relates a man going to a pond, where it ſeems a Pike had devoured all the fiſh, to water his Mule, had a Pike bit his Mule by the lips; to which the pike hung ſo faſt, that the Mule drew him out of the water, and by that accident the owner of the Mule angled out the Pike. And the ſame *Geſner* obſerves, that a Maid in *Poland* had a Pike bit her by the foot as ſhe was waſhing clothes in a pond. And I have heard the like of a woman in *Killingworth* Pond, not far from *Coventry*. But I have been aſſured by my friend Mr. *Seagrave*, of whom I ſpake to you formerly*, that keeps tame Otters, that he hath known a Pike in extream hunger fight with one of his Otters for a Carp that the Otter had caught, and was then bringing out of the water. I have told you who relates theſe things, and tell you they are perſons of credit, and ſhall conclude this obſervation, by telling you what a wiſe man has obſerved, "It is a hard thing to "perſwade the belly, becauſe it has no ears†."

But

* See Page 50.

† As a confirmation of the above particulars, take the following relation of the beforementioned Mr. *Bowlker*. "My "father catched a Pike in *Barn-Mere*, (a large ſtanding "water in *Cheſhire*) was an ell long, and weighed thirty five "pounds, which he brought to the Lord *Cholmondeley*: his "Lordſhip ordered it to be turned into a canal in the gar-

But if theſe relations be diſbelieved, it is too evident to be doubted, that a Pike will devour a fiſh of his own kind, that ſhall be bigger than his belly or throat will receive, and ſwallow a part of him, and let the other part remain in his mouth till the ſwallowed part be digeſted, and then ſwallow that other part that was in his mouth, and ſo put it over by degrees; which is not unlike the Ox and ſome other beaſts taking their meat, not out of their mouth immediately into their belly, but firſt into ſome place betwixt, and then chaw it, or digeſt it by degrees after, which is called Chewing the Cud. And doubtleſs Pikes will bite when they are not hungry, but as ſome think even for very anger, when a tempting bait comes near to them.

And it is obſerved, that the Pike will eat venemous things, as ſome kind of Frogs are, and yet live without being harmed by them: for as ſome ſay, he has in him a natural Balſam, or antidote againſt all poiſon: and he has a ſtrange heat,

" den, wherein were abundance of ſeveral ſorts of fiſh. " About twelve months after his Lordſhip draw'd the canal, " and found that this overgrown Pike had devoured all the " fiſh, except one large Carp, that weighed between nine " and ten pounds, and that was bitten in ſeveral places. The " Pike was then put into the canal again, together with " abundance of fiſh with him to feed upon; all which he de- " voured in leſs than a year's time; and was obſerved by the " gardener and workmen there to take the Ducks, and other " water-fowl, under water: whereupon they ſhot Magpies " and Crows, and throwed them into the canal, which the " Pike took before their eyes: of this they acquainted their " Lord, who thereupon ordered the Slaughterman to fling in " Calve's-bellies, Chicken's Guts, and ſuch-like garbage, to " him, to prey upon; but being ſoon after neglected, he died, " as ſuppoſed, for want of food."

that

that though it appear to us to be cold, can yet digeſt or put over, any fiſh-fleſh by degrees without being ſick. And others obſerve, that he never eats the venemous Frog till he have firſt killed her, and then as Ducks are obſerved to do to Frogs in ſpawning time, at which time ſome Frogs are obſerved to be venemous, ſo thoroughly waſht her, by tumbling her up and down in the water, that he may devour her without danger. And *Geſner* affirms that a *Polonian* gentleman, did faithfully aſſure him, he had ſeen two young Geeſe at one time in the belly of a Pike. And doubtleſs a Pike in his height of hunger will bite at and devour a dog that ſwims in a pond, and there have been examples of it, or the like; for as I told you, "The "belly has no ears when hunger comes upon "it."

The Pike is alſo obſerved to be a ſolitary, melancholy, and a bold fiſh: melancholy, becauſe he always ſwims or reſts himſelf alone, and never ſwims in ſholes or with company, as Roach and Dace, and moſt other fiſh do: and bold, becauſe he fears not a ſhadow, or to ſee or be ſeen of any body, as the Trout and Chub, and all other fiſh do.

And it is obſerved by *Geſner*, that the Jaw-bones, and hearts and galls of Pikes, are very medicinable for ſeveral diſeaſes, or to ſtop blood, to abate fevers, to cure agues, to oppoſe or expel the infection of the plague, and to be many ways medicinable and uſeful for the good of mankind; but he obſerves, that the biting of a Pike is venemous and hard to be cured.

And it is obſerved, that the Pike is a fiſh that breeds but once a year, and that other fiſh, as namely Loaches, do breed oftner: as we are certain tame Pigeons do almoſt every month, and yet the Hawk, a bird of prey, as the Pike is of fiſh, breeds but once in twelve months: and you are to note, that his time of breeding, or ſpawning, is uſually about the end of *February*, or ſomewhat later, in *March*, as the weather proves colder or warmer, and to note, that his manner of breeding is thus, a he and a ſhe-Pike will uſually go together out of a river into ſome ditch or creek, and that there the ſpawner caſts her eggs, and the melter hovers over her all that time that ſhe is caſting her ſpawn, but touches her not. *

I might ſay more of this, but it might be thought curioſity or worſe, and ſhall therefore forbear it, and take up ſo much of your attention, as to tell you, that the beſt of Pikes are noted to be in rivers, next thoſe in great ponds, or meres, and the worſt in ſmall ponds.

But before I proceed further, I am to tell you that there is a great antipathy betwixt the Pike and ſome Frogs; and this may appear to the reader of *Dubravius*, a biſhop in *Bohemia* †, who in his book of fiſh and fiſh-ponds, relates what,

* Very late diſcoveries of Naturaliſts contradict this *Hypotheſis* concerning the generation of Fiſhes, and prove that they are produced by the conjunction of the male and female, as other animals are. See the *Philoſophical Tranſactions*, Vol. 48. Part 2. for the Year 1754. Page 870.

† *Janus Dubravius* publiſhed, in 1559, a work entituled, *de Piſcinis et Piſcium, qui in eis aluntur natura*, in five books.

he

he ſays he ſaw with his own eyes, and could not forbear to tell the reader. Which was:

" As he and the Biſhop *Thurzo* were walking " by a large pond in *Bohemia*, they ſaw a Frog, " when the Pike lay very ſleepily and quiet by " the ſhore-ſide, leap upon his head, and the " Frog having expreſt malice or anger by his " ſwoln cheeks and ſtaring eyes, did ſtretch out " his legs and embraced the Pike's head, and " preſently reached them to his eyes, tearing " with them and his teeth thoſe tender parts; " the Pike moved with anguiſh, moves up and " down the water, and rubs himſelf againſt " weeds, and whatever he thought might quit " him of his enemy; but all in vain, for the " Frog did continue to ride triumphantly, and " to bite and torment the Pike, till his ſtrength " failed, and then the frog ſunk with the Pike to " the bottom of the water; then preſently the " frog appeared again at the top and croaked, " and ſeemed to rejoice like a Conqueror, after " which he preſently retired to his ſecret hole. " The Biſhop, that had beheld the battle, called " his fiſherman to fetch his nets, and by all " means to get the Pike, that they might de- " clare what had happened: and the Pike was " drawn forth, and both his eyes eaten out, at " which when they began to wonder, the Fiſh- " erman wiſhed them to forbear, and aſſured " them he was certain that Pikes were often ſo " ſerved."

I told this, which is to be read in the ſixth chapter of the book of *Dubravius*, unto a friend, who replied, " It was as improbable as to have " the mouſe ſcratch out the cat's eyes." But he

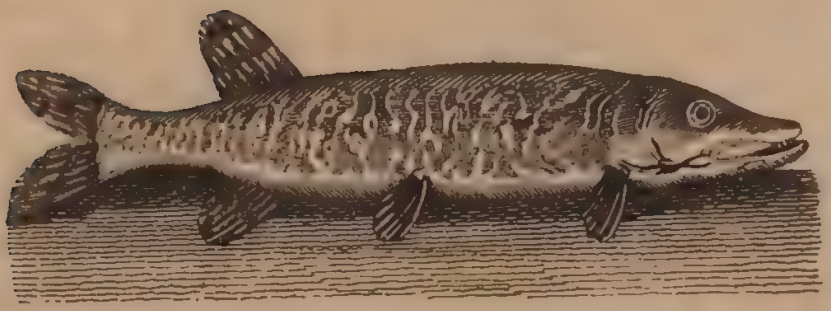
did not conſider, that there be fiſhing Frogs, which the *Dalmatians* call the water-devil, of which I might tell you as wonderful a ſtory, but I ſhall tell you, that 'tis not to be doubted, but that there be ſome Frogs ſo fearful of the water-ſnake, that, when they ſwim in a place in which they fear to meet with him, they then get a reed acroſs into their Mouths, which if they two meet by accident, ſecures the frog from the ſtrength and malice of the Snake, and note, that the frog uſually ſwims the faſteſt of the two.

And let me tell you, that as there be Water and Land-frogs, ſo there be Land and Water-ſnakes. Concerning which take this obſervation, that the Land-ſnake breeds, and hatches her eggs, which become young ſnakes, in ſome old dunghill, or a like hot place; but the Water-ſnake, which is not venemous, and as I have been aſſured by a great obſerver of ſuch ſecrets, does not hatch but breed her young alive, which ſhe does not then forſake, but bides with them, and in caſe of danger will take them all into her mouth and ſwim away from any apprehended danger, and then let them out again when ſhe thinks all danger to be paſt; theſe be accidents that we Anglers ſometimes ſee, and often talk of.

But whither am I going? I had almoſt loſt myſelf by remembring the diſcourſe of *Dubravius*. I will therefore ſtop here, and tell you according to my promiſe how to catch this

PIKE.

PIKE



His feeding is uſually of fiſh or frogs, and ſometimes a weed of his own called Pickerel-weed. Of which I told you ſome think ſome Pikes are bred; for they have obſerved, that where none have been put into ponds, yet they have there found many: and that there has been plenty of that weed in thoſe ponds, and that that weed both breeds and feeds them; but whether thoſe Pikes ſo bred will ever breed by generation as the others do, I ſhall leave to the diſquiſitions of men of more curioſity and leiſure than I profeſs my ſelf to have; and ſhall proceed to tell you that you may fiſh for a Pike, either with a ledger or a walking-bait; and you are to note, that I call that a ledger-bait, which is fixed or made to reſt in one certain place when you ſhall be abſent from it: and I call that a walking-bait, which you take with you, and have ever in motion. Concerning which two, I ſhall give you

you this direction; that your ledger-bait is beſt to be a living bait, though a dead one may catch, whether it be a fiſh or a frog; and that you may make them live the longer, you may, or indeed you muſt, take this courſe.

Firſt, for your live-bait of fiſh, a Roach or Dace is, I think, beſt and moſt tempting, and a Pearch is the longeſt lived on a hook, and having cut off his fin on his back, which may be done without hurting him, you muſt take your knife, which cannot be too ſharp, and betwixt the head and the fin on the back, cut or make an inciſion, or ſuch a ſcar, as you may put the arming wire of your hook into it, with as little bruiſing or hurting the fiſh as art and diligence will enable you to do; and ſo carrying your arming wire along his back, unto, or near the tail of your fiſh, betwixt the ſkin and the body of it, draw out that wire or arming of your hook at another ſcar near to his tail: then tie him about it with thred, but no harder than of neceſſity to prevent hurting the fiſh; and the better to avoid hurting the fiſh, ſome have a kind of probe to open the way, for the more eaſie entrance and paſſage of your wire or arming: but as for theſe, time, and a little experience, will teach you better than I can by words; therefore I will for the preſent ſay no more of this, but come next to give you ſome directions how to bait your hook with a frog.

Ven. But, good Maſter, did you not ſay even now, that ſome frogs were venemous, and is it not dangerous to touch them?

Piſc. Yes, but I will give you ſome rules or cautions concerning them: and firſt, you are to note,

note, that there are two kinds of frogs; that is to say, if I may so express myself, a flesh, and a fish-frog: by flesh-frogs, I mean frogs that breed and live on the land; and of these there be several sorts also, and of several colours, some being peckled, some greenish, some blackish, or brown: the green frog, which is a small one, is by *Topsel* taken to be venemous; and so is the padock or frog-padock, which usually keeps or breeds on the land, and is very large and bony, and big, especially the she-frog of that kind; yet these will sometimes come into the water, but it is not often; and the land-frogs are some of them observed by him, to breed by laying eggs: and others to breed of the slime and dust of the earth, and that in winter they turn to slime again, and that the next summer that very slime returns to be a living creature; this is the opinion of *Pliny*, and * *Cardanus* † undertakes to give a reason for the raining of frogs ‖: but if it were in my power, it should rain none but water-frogs, for those I think are not venemous, especially the right water-frog, which about *February* or *March* breeds in ditches by slime, and blackish

* In his 19th Book *De subtil. ex.*

† *Cardan*, an *Italian* Physician, Naturalist and Astrologer, well known by the many works he has published: he died at *Rome* 1576. It is said that he had foretold the day of his death; and that, when it approached, he suffered himself to die of hunger to preserve his reputation. He had been in *England*, and wrote a character of our *Edw.* VI.

‖ There are many well attested accounts of the raining of Frogs; but Mr. *Ray* rejects them as utterly false and ridiculous, and demonstrates the impossibility of their production in any such manner. *Wisdom of God in the creation*, 310. See also *Derham*'s *Phys. Theol.* 244.

eggs

eggs in that ſlime: about which time of breeding the he and ſhe-frogs are obſerved to uſe divers ſummer-ſalts, and to croak and make a noiſe, which the land-frog, or padock-frog, never does. Now of theſe water-frogs, if you intend to fiſh with a frog for a Pike, you are to chuſe the yelloweſt that you can get, for that the Pike ever likes beſt. And thus uſe your frog, that he may continue long alive.

Put your hook into his mouth, which you may eaſily do from the middle of *April* till *Auguſt*, and then the frog's mouth grows up, and he continues ſo for at leaſt ſix months without eating, but is ſuſtained, none, but he whoſe name is wonderful, knows how: I ſay, put your hook, I mean the arming wire, through his mouth, and out at his gills, and then with a fine needle and ſilk ſow the upper part of his leg with only one ſtitch to the arming wire of your hook, or tie the frog's leg above the upper joint to the armed wire, and in ſo doing, uſe him as though you loved him, that is, harm him as little as you may poſſibly, that he may live the longer.

And now, having given you this direction for the baiting your ledger-hook with a live fiſh or frog, my next muſt be to tell you, how your hook thus baited muſt or may be uſed: and it is thus. Having faſtened your hook to a line, which if it be not fourteen yards long, ſhould not be leſs than twelve; you are to faſten that line to any bough near to a hole where a Pike is, or is likely to lie, or to have a haunt, and then wind your line on any forked ſtick, all your line, except half a yard of it, or rather more, and ſplit that forked ſtick with ſuch a nick or notch

at

at one end of it, as may keep the line from any more of it ravelling from about the ſtick than ſo much of it as you intend; and chuſe your forked ſtick to be of that bigneſs as may keep the fiſh or frog from pulling the forked ſtick under the water till the Pike bites, and then the Pike having pulled the line forth of the cleft or nick of that ſtick in which it was gently faſtened, he will have line enough to go to his hold and pouch the bait: and if you would have this ledger-bait to keep at a fixt place, undiſturbed by wind or other accidents which may drive it to the ſhore-ſide; for you are to note, that it is likelieſt to catch a Pike in the midſt of the water, then hang a ſmall plummet of lead, a ſtone, or piece of tile, or a turf in a ſtring, and caſt it into the water, with the forked ſtick, to hang upon the ground, to be a kind of anchor to keep the forked ſtick from moving out of your intended place till the Pike come. This I take to be a very good way, to uſe ſo many ledger-baits as you intend to make trial of.

Or if you bait your hooks thus with live-fiſh or frogs, and in a windy day, faſten them thus to a bough or bundle of ſtraw, and by the help of that wind can get them to move croſs a pond or mere, you are like to ſtand ſtill on the ſhore and ſee ſport preſently if there be any ſtore of Pikes; or theſe live-baits may make ſport, being tied about the body or wings of a gooſe or duck, and ſhe chaſed over a pond *: and the like may be done

* *A rod twelve foot long, and a ring of wire,*
A winder and barrel, will help thy deſire
In killing a Pike; but the forked ſtick,
With a ſlit and a bladder, and that other fine trick,
Which

done with turning three or four live-baits thus faſtened to bladders, or boughs, or bottles of hay or flags, to ſwim down a river, whilſt you walk quietly alone on the ſhore, and are ſtill in expectation of ſport. The reſt muſt be taught you by practice, for time will not allow me to ſay more of this kind of fiſhing with live-baits.

And for your dead-bait for a Pike, for that you may be taught by one day's going a fiſhing with me, or any other body that fiſhes for him, for the baiting your hook with a dead Gudgeon or a Roach, and moving it up and down the water, is too eaſie a thing to take up any time to direct you to do it; and yet, becauſe I cut you ſhort in that, I will commute for it, by telling you that that was told me for a ſecret: it is this.

Diſſolve gum of Ivy in oyl of Spike, and therewith anoynt your dead-bait for a Pike, and then caſt it into a likely place, and when it has lain a ſhort time at the bottom, draw it towards the top of the water and ſo up the ſtream, and it is more than likely that you have a Pike follow with more than common eagerneſs.

And ſome affirm, that any bait anointed with the marrow of the thigh-bone of an Hern is a great temptation to any fiſh.

Which our artiſts call ſnap, with a Gooſe or a Duck,
Will kill two for one, if you have any luck.
The gentry of Shropſhire *do merrily ſmile,*
To ſee a Gooſe and a Belt the Fiſh to beguile:
When a Pike ſuns himſelf, and a frogging doth go,
The two-inched hook is better, I know,
Than the ordinary ſnaring, but ſtill I muſt cry,
When the Pike is at home, mind the cookery.

Mr. Barker.

Theſe

These have not been tryed by me, but told me by a friend of note, that pretended to do me a courtesie; but if this direction to catch a Pike thus, do you no good, yet I am certain this direction how to roast him when he is caught, is choicely good, for I have tryed it; and it is somewhat the better for not being common, but with my direction you must take this caution, that your Pike must not be a small one, that is, it must be more than half a yard, and should be bigger.

First, open your Pike at the gills, and if need be, cut also a little slit towards the belly; out of these take his guts and keep his liver, which you are to shred very small with thyme, sweet marjoram, and a little winter-savoury; to these put some pickled Oysters, and some Anchovies, two or three, both these last whole, for the Anchovies will melt, and the Oysters should not, to these you must add also a pound of sweet butter, which you are to mix with the herbs that are shred, and let them all be well salted; if the Pike be more than a yard long, then you may put into these herbs more than a pound, or if he be less, then less butter will suffice: these being thus mixt with a blade or two of mace, must be put into the Pike's belly, and then his belly so sowed up, as to keep all the butter in his belly if it be possible; if not, then as much of it as you possibly can, but take not off the scales; then you are to thrust the spit through his mouth, out at his tail, and then take four, or five, or six split sticks or very thin lathes, and a convenient quantity of tape or filleting; these lathes are to be tyed round about the Pike's body from

from his head to his tail, and the tape tyed ſomewhat thick to prevent his breaking or falling off from the ſpit; let him be roaſted very leiſurely, and often baſted with claret wine, and Anchovies, and butter mixt together, and alſo with what moiſture falls from him into the pan: when you have roaſted him ſufficiently, you are to hold under him, when you unwind or cut the tape that ties him, ſuch a diſh as you purpoſe to eat him out of; and let him fall into it with the ſawce that is roaſted in his belly, and by this means the Pike will be kept unbroken and compleat: then, to the ſawce which was within, and alſo that ſawce in the pan, you are to add a fit quantity of the beſt butter, and to ſqueeze the juyce of three or four oranges: laſtly, you may either put into the Pike with the Oyſters, two cloves of garlick, and take it whole out, when the Pike is cut off the ſpit; or to give the ſawce a hogo, let the diſh into which you let the Pike fall, be rubbed with it: the uſing or not uſing of this garlick is left to your diſcretion.

M. B.

This diſh of meat is too good for any but Anglers, or very honeſt men; and I truſt, you will prove both, and therefore I have truſted you with this ſecret.

Let me next tell you, that *Geſner* tells us there are no Pikes in *Spain*, and that the largeſt are in the lake *Thraſimene* in *Italy*; and the next, if not equal to them, are the Pikes of *England*, and that in *England*, *Lincolnſhire* boaſteth to have the biggeſt*. Juſt ſo doth *Suſſex* boaſt of four ſorts

* They are ſaid to grow to the length of forty five inches.

of

of fiſh; namely an *Arundel* Mullet, a *Chicheſter* Lobſter, a *Shelſey* Cockle, and an *Amerly* Trout.

But I will take up no more of your time with this relation, but proceed to give you ſome obſervations of the Carp, and how to angle for him and to dreſs him, but not till he is caught *.

CHAP.

* The Pike loves a ſtill, ſhady, unfrequented water, and uſually lies amongſt, or near, weeds; ſuch as Flags, Bulruſhes, Candocks, Reeds, or in the green Fog that ſometimes covers ſtanding waters, though he will ſometimes ſhoot out into the clear ſtream. He is ſometimes caught at the top, and in the middle, and often, eſpecially in cold weather, at the bottom.

Their time of *Spawning* is about the end of *February*, or the beginning of *March*; and chief ſeaſon from the end of *May* to the beginning of *February*.

The *Baits* for Pike, beſides thoſe mentioned by *Walton*, are ſmall Trouts, Loaches, Miller's-Thumbs, the head end of an Eel, with the ſkin taken off below the fins, ſmall Jacks, Lob-worms; and in Winter the fat of Bacon. And, notwithſtanding what *Walton* and others ſay againſt baiting with a Pearch, it is confidently aſſerted, that Pikes have been taken with a ſmall Pearch, when neither Roach nor Bleak would tempt them. See *the Angler's ſure guide*, 158.

Obſerve that all your Baits for Pike muſt be as freſh as poſſible. Living-Baits you may take with you in a Tin kettle, changing the water often; and dead ones ſhould be carried in freſh bran, which will dry up that moiſture that otherwiſe would infect and rot them. *Venables.*

It is ſtrange that *Walton* has ſaid ſo little of *Trolling*; a method of fiſhing for Pike which has been thought worthy of a diſtinct treatiſe; for which method, and for the *Snap*, take theſe directions; and firſt for Trolling:

And note that, in Trolling, the head of the Bait-fiſh muſt be at the bent of the hook; whereas, in fiſhing at the Snap, the hook muſt come out at or near his tail. But the eſſential difference between theſe two methods is, that in the former the Pike is always ſuffered to pouch or ſwallow the bait, but in the latter you are to ſtrike as ſoon as he has taken it.

CHAP. IX.

Obſervations of the CARP, *with directions how to fiſh for him.*

PISCATOR.

THE Carp is the Queen of rivers: a ſtately, a good, and a very ſubtil fiſh, that was not at firſt bred, nor hath been long in England, but is now naturalized. It is ſaid, they were brought hither by one Mr. *Maſcal*, a gentleman that then lived at *Plumſted* in *Suſſex*, a county that abounds more with this fiſh than any in this nation.

You

The rod for Trolling ſhould be about three yards and a half long, with a ring at the top for the line to run through, or you may fit a Trolling-top to your Fly-rod, which need only be ſtronger than the common Fly-top.

Let your line be of green or ſky-coloured ſilk, thirty yards in length; which will make it neceſſary to uſe the winch, as is before directed, with a ſwivel at the end.

The common Trolling-hook, for a living-bait, conſiſts of two large hooks, with one common ſhank, made of one piece of wire, of about three quarters of an inch long, placed back to back, ſo that the points may not ſtand in a right line, but incline ſo much inwards, as that they with the ſhank may form an angle, little leſs than equilateral. At the top of the ſhank is a loop left in the bending the wire to make the hook double, through which is put a ſtrong twiſted braſs wire, of about ſix inches long; and to this is looped another ſuch link, but both ſo looſe that the hook and the lower link may have room to play: to the end of the line faſten a ſteel ſwivel.

To bait the hook, obſerve the directions given by *Walton*.

But there is a ſort of Trolling-hook different from that already deſcribed, and to which it is thought preferable, which will require another management; this is no more than

two

You may remember that I told you, *Geſner* ſays, there are no Pikes in *Spain*; and doubtleſs, there was a time, about a hundred or a few more years ago, when there were no Carps in *England*, as may ſeem to be affirmed by Sir *Richard Baker*, in whoſe Chronicle you may find theſe verſes.

Hops and Turkies, Carps and Beer,
Came into England *all in a year.*

And

two ſingle hooks tied back to back with a ſtrong piece of gimp between the ſhanks; in the whipping the hooks and the gimp together, make a ſmall loop, and take into it two links of chain of about an eighth of an inch diameter; and into the lower link, by means of a ſmall ſtaple of wire, faſten, by the greater end, a bit of lead of a conical figure, and ſomewhat ſharp at the point. Theſe hooks are to be had at the Fiſhing-tackle ſhops, ready fitted up; but ſee the form of them Plate IX. Fig. 5.

This latter kind of hook is to be thus ordered, *viz.* put the lead into the mouth of the Bait-fiſh, and ſew it up, the fiſh will live ſome time; and though the weight of the lead will keep his head down, he will ſwim with near the ſame eaſe as if at liberty.

But if you troll with a dead-Bait, as ſome do, for a reaſon which the Angler will be glad to know, *viz.* that a living Bait makes too great a ſlaughter among the fiſh; do it with a hook, of which the following paragraph contains a deſcription.

Let the ſhank be about ſix inches long, and leaded from the middle as low as the bent of the hook, to which a piece of very ſtrong gimp muſt be faſtened by a ſtaple, and two links of chain; the ſhank muſt be barbed like a dart, and the lead a quarter of an inch ſquare: the barb of the ſhank muſt ſtand like the fluke of an anchor, which is placed in a contrary direction to that of the ſtock. See Plate IX. Fig. 6. Let the gimp be about a foot long, and to the end thereof fix a ſwivel: to bait it, thruſt the barb of the ſhank into the mouth of the Bait-fiſh, and bring it out at his ſide near the tail: when the barb is thus brought through, it cannot return, and the fiſh will lie perfectly ſtrait; a circumſtance that renders the trouble of tying the tail unneceſſary.

And doubtleſs as of ſea-fiſh the Herring dies ſooneſt out of the water, and of freſh-water-fiſh the Trout, ſo, except the Eel, the Carp endures moſt hardneſs, and lives longeſt out of his own proper element. And therefore the report of the Carp's being brought out of a forraigne country into this nation is the more probable.

Carps

There is yet another ſort of Trolling-hook, which is, indeed, no other than what moſt writers on this ſubject have mentioned; whereas the others, here deſcribed, are late improvements; and this is a hook either ſingle or double, with a long ſhank, loaded about three inches up the wire with a piece of lead about a quarter of an inch ſquare at the greater or lower end: fix to the ſhank an armed wire about eight inches long; to bait this hook thruſt your wire into the mouth of the fiſh, quite through his belly, and out at his tail, placing the wire ſo as that the point of the hook may be even with the belly of the Bait fiſh; and then tie the tail of the fiſh with ſtrong thread to the wire; ſome faſten it with a needle and thread, which is a neat way.

Both with the Troll, and at the Snap, cut away one of the fins of the Bait-fiſh cloſe at the gills, and another behind the vent on the contrary ſide; which will make it play the better.

The Bait being thus fixed, is to be thrown in, and kept in conſtant motion in the water, ſometimes ſuffered to ſink, then gradually raiſed; now drawn with the ſtream, and then againſt it; ſo as to counterfeit the motion of a ſmall fiſh in ſwimming. If a Pike is near, he miſtakes the Bait for a living fiſh, ſeizes it with prodigious greedineſs, goes off with it to his hold, and in about ten minutes pouches it. When he has thus ſwallowed the Bait, you will ſee the line move, which is the ſignal for ſtriking him; do this with two luſty jerks, and then play him.

The other way of taking Pike, *viz.* with the *Snap*, is as follows:

Let the rod be twelve feet long, very ſtrong and taper, with a ſtrong loop at the top to faſten your line to; your line muſt be about a foot ſhorter than the rod, and much ſtronger than the Trolling-line.

And

Carps and Loaches are obſerved to breed ſeveral months in one year, which Pikes and moſt other fiſh do not. And this is partly proved by tame and wild Rabbets, as alſo by ſome Ducks, which will lay eggs nine of the twelve months, and yet there be other Ducks that lay not longer than

And here it is neceſſary to be remembered, that there are two ways of ſnapping for Pike, *viz.* with the *live* and with the *dead*-Snap.

For the *live*-Snap, there is no kind of hook ſo proper as the double ſpring hook; the form whereof, in two views, is given in Plate IX. Fig. 7 and 8: to bait it nothing more is neceſſary than to hang the Bait-fiſh fait by the back-fin to the middle hook; where he will live a long time.

Of hooks for the *dead*-Snap there are many kinds. Fig. 9. of Plate IX, is a repreſentation of one which, after repeated trials, has been found to excel all others hitherto known; the deſcription and uſe of it is as follows, *viz.* Whip two hooks, of about three eighths of an inch in the bent, to a piece of gimp, in the manner directed for that Trolling-hook a view of which is given Plate IX. Fig. 5. Then take a piece of lead, of the ſame ſize and figure as directed for the Trolling-hook abovementioned, and drill a hole through it, from end to end: to bait it take a long needle, or wire; enter it in at the ſide, about half an inch above the tail, and with it paſs the gimp between the ſkin and the rib of the fiſh, bringing it out at his mouth; then put the lead over the gimp, draw it down into the fiſh's throat, and preſs his mouth cloſe, and then, having a ſwivel to your line, hang on the gimp.

In throwing the Bait, obſerve the rules given for trolling; but remember, that the more you keep it in motion, the nearer it reſembles a living fiſh.

When you have a bite, ſtrike immediately the contrary way to that which the head of the Pike lies, or to which he goes with the Bait; if you cannot find which way his head lies, ſtrike upright with two ſmart jerks, retiring backwards as faſt as you can, till you have brought him to a landing place; and then do as before is directed.

than about one month. And it is the rather to be believed, becauſe you ſhall ſcarce or never take a Male-Carp without a Melt, or a Female without a Roe or ſpawn, and for the moſt part

There are various other methods, both of trolling and fiſhing at the Snap, which, if the reader is deſirous to know, he may find deſcribed in the *Compleat Troller*, by [illegible], 12*mo.* 1682. and the *Angler's ſure guide*, before mentioned.

As the Pike ſpawns in *March*, and both [illegible] rivers are ſeldom in order for fiſhing, it will hardly be worth while to begin trolling till *April*, after that the weeds will be apt to be troubleſome. But the prime month in the year for trolling is *October*, when the Pike are fattened by their Summer's feed, the weeds are rotted, and by the falling of the waters the harbours of the fiſh are eaſily found.

Chuſe to troll in clear, and not muddy, water, and in windy weather, if the wind be not eaſterly.

Some uſe, in trolling and ſnapping, two or more ſwivels to their line; by means whereof the twiſting of the line is prevented, the Bait plays more freely, and, though dead, is made to appear as if alive; which, in rivers, is doubtleſs an excellent way: but thoſe who can like to fiſh in ponds or ſtill waters will find very little occaſion for more than one.

The Pike is alſo to be caught with a Minnow; for which method take the following directions:

Get a ſingle hook, ſlender, and long in the ſhank; let it reſemble the ſhape of a ſhepherd's crook; put lead upon it, as thick near the bent as will go into the Minnow's mouth; place the point of the hook directly up the face of the fiſh; let the rod be as long as you can handſomely manage, with a line of the ſame length, caſt up and down, and manage it as when you troll with any other Bait: if, when the Pike hath taken your Bait, he run to the end of the line before he hath gorged it, do not ſtrike, but hold ſtill only, and he will return back, and ſwallow it: But if you uſe that Bait with a Troll, I rather prefer it before any other Bait that I know. *Venables.*

In *landing* a Pike great caution is neceſſary; for his bite is eſteemed venomous: the beſt and ſafeſt hold you can take of him, is by the head; in doing which, place your thumb and finger in his eyes.

very

very much; and especially all the summer-season, and it is observed, that they breed more naturally in ponds than in running waters, if they breed there at all; and that those that live in rivers are taken by men of the best palats to be much the better meat.

And it is observed, that in some ponds Carps will not breed, especially in cold ponds; but where they will breed, they breed innumerably: *Aristotle* and *Pliny* say, six times in a year, if there be no Pikes nor Pearch to devour their spawn, when it is cast upon grass, or flags or weeds, where it lies ten or twelve days before it be enlivened.

The Carp, if he have water-room and good feed, will grow to a very great bigness and length: I have heard, to be much above a yard long. 'Tis said, by *Jovius**, who hath writ of fishes, that in the lake *Lurian* in *Italy*, Carps have thriven to be more than fifty pound weight, which is the more probable; for as the Bear is conceiv'd and born suddenly, and being born is but short-liv'd; so, on the contrary, the Elephant is said to be two years in his dam's belly, some think he is ten years in it, and being born, grows in bigness twenty years; and 'tis observ'd too that he lives to the age of a hundred years. And 'tis also observ'd, that the Crocodile is very long-liv'd, and more than that, that all that long life he thrives in bigness; and so I think some Carps do, especially in some places;

* *Paulus Jovius*, an *Italian* historian, of very doubtful authority: he lived in the 16th century; and wrote a small tract *de Romanis Piscibus*. He died at *Florence*, 1552.

though I never saw one above twenty three inches, which was a great and a goodly fish; but have been assured there are of a far greater size, and in *England* too *.

Now, as their increase of Carps is wonderful for their numbers; so there is not a reason found out, I think by any, why they should breed in some ponds, and not in others of the same nature for soil and all other circumstances: and as their breeding, so are their decays and very mysterious: I have both read it and been told by a gentleman of tryed honesty, that he has known sixty or more large Carps put into several ponds near to a house, where by reason of the trees in the ponds, and the owner's constant being near to them, it was impossible they should be stole away from him: and that when he has after three or four years emptyed the pond, and expected an increase from them by breeding young ones, for that they might do so, he had, as the rule is, put in three melters for one spawner, he has, I say, after three or four years, found neither a young nor old Carp remaining. And the like I have known of one that has almost watched the pond, and at a like distance of time at the fishing of a pond, found of seventy or eighty large Carps not above five or six. And that he had forborn longer to fish the said pond, but that he saw in a hot day in summer, a large Carp swim near the top of the water with a frog upon his head, and that he upon that occasion caused his pond to be

* The author of *The Angler's sure guide* says, that he has taken Carp above *twenty six* inches long in rivers; and adds, that they are often seen in *England* above *thirty* inches long.

let

let dry: and I say, of seventy or eighty Carps, only found five or six in the said pond, and those very sick and lean, and with every one a frog sticking so fast on the head of the said Carps, that the frog would not be got off without extreme force or killing: and the gentleman that did affirm this to me, told me he saw it, and did declare his belief to be, and I also believe the same, that he thought the other Carps that were so strangely lost, were so killed by frogs, and then devoured.

And a person of honour, now living in *Worcestershire*, assur'd me he had seen a necklace, or collar of tadpoles, hang like a chain or necklace of beads about a Pike's neck, and to kill him; whether it were for meat or malice, must be to me a question.

But I am fallen into this discourse by accident, of which I might say more, but it has proved longer than I intended, and possibly may not to you be considerable; I shall therefore give you three or four more short observations of the Carp, and then fall upon some directions how you shall fish for him.

The age of Carps is by Sir *Francis Bacon*, in his history of life and death, observed to be but ten years, yet others think they live longer. *Gesner* saies a Carp has been known to live in the *Palatinate* above a hundred years: But most conclude, that, contrary to the Pike or Luce, all Carps are the better for age and bigness; the tongues of Carps are noted to be choice and costly meat, especially to them that buy them: but *Gesner* saies, Carps have no tongue like other fish, but a piece of flesh-like fish in their mouth like

like to a tongue, and ſhould be called a palate: But it is certain it is choicely good, and that the Carp is to be reckoned amongſt thoſe leather-mouthed fiſh, which I told you have their teeth in their throat, and for that reaſon he is very ſeldom loſt by breaking his hold, if your hook be once ſtuck into his chaps.

I told you that Sir *Francis Bacon* thinks that the Carp lives but ten years, but *Janus Dubravius* has writ a book of fiſh and fiſh-ponds, in which he ſays, that Carps begin to ſpawn at the age of three years, and continue to do ſo till thirty: he ſays alſo, that in the time of their breeding, which is in ſummer, when the ſun hath warmed both the earth and water, and ſo apted them alſo for generation; that then three or four male Carps will follow a female, and that then ſhe putting on a ſeeming coyneſs, they force her through weeds and flags, where ſhe lets fall her eggs or ſpawn, which ſticks faſt to the weeds, and then they let fall their melt upon it, and ſo it becomes in a ſhort time to be a living fiſh; and as I told you, it is thought the Carp does this ſeveral months in the year, and moſt believe that moſt fiſh breed after this manner, except the Eel: and it has been obſerved, that when the ſpawner has weakned herſelf by doing that natural office, that two or three melters have helped her from off the weeds by bearing her up on both ſides, and guarding her into the deep. And you may note, that though this may ſeem a curioſity not worth obſerving, yet others have judged it worth their time and coſts, to make glaſs-hives, and order them in ſuch a manner as to ſee how bees have bred and made their honey-combs, and how

how they have obeyed their king, and governed their common-wealth. But it is thought that all Carps are not bred by generation, but that ſome breed other ways, as ſome Pikes do.

The phyſicians make the galls and ſtones in the heads of Carps to be very medicinable; but 'tis not to be doubted but that in *Italy* they make great profit of the ſpawn of Carps, by ſelling it to the *Jews*, who make it into red caviare, the *Jews* not being by their law admitted to eat of caviare made of the Sturgeon, that being a fiſh that wants ſcales, and, as may appear in *Levit.* 11. by them reputed to be unclean.

Much more might be ſaid out of him, and out of *Ariſtotle*, which *Dubravius* often quotes in his diſcourſe of fiſhes; but it might rather perplex than ſatisfie you, and therefore I ſhall rather chuſe to direct you how to catch, than ſpend more time in diſcourſing either of the nature or the breeding of this

CARP

or of any more circumſtances concerning him; but yet I ſhall remember you of what I told you before, that he is a very ſubtil fiſh, and hard to be caught.

And my firſt direction is, that if you will fiſh for a Carp, you muſt put on a very large meaſure of patience; eſpecially to fiſh for a river-Carp: I have known a very good fiſher angle diligently four or ſix hours in a day, for three or four days together for a river-Carp, and not have a bite: and you are to note, that in ſome ponds, it is as hard to catch a Carp as in a river; that is to ſay, where they have ſtore of food, and the water is of a clayiſh colour: But you are to remember, that I have told you there is no rule without an exception, and therefore being poſſeſt with that hope and patience, which I wiſh to all fiſhers, eſpecially to the Carp-Angler, I ſhall tell you with what bait to fiſh for him. But firſt you are to know, that it muſt be either early or late; and let me tell you, that in hot weather, for he will ſeldom bite in cold, you cannot be too early or too late at it. And ſome have been ſo curious as to ſay, the tenth of *April* is a fatal day for Carps.

The Carp bites either at worms or at paſte, and of worms I think the blueiſh marſh or meadow-worm is beſt; but poſſibly another worm, not too big, may do as well, and ſo may a green gentle: and as for paſtes, there are almoſt as many ſorts as there are medicines for the toothach, but doubtleſs ſweet paſtes are beſt; I mean, paſtes made with honey or with ſugar: which, that you may the better beguile this crafty fiſh, ſhould be thrown into the pond or place in

which

which you fiſh for him, ſome hours or longer before you undertake your tryal of ſkill with the angle-rod: and doubtleſs if it be thrown into the water a day or two before, at ſeveral times and in ſmall pellets, you are the likelier when you fiſh for the Carp to obtain your deſired ſport; or in a large pond, to draw them to any certain place, that they may the better and with more hope be fiſhed for, you are to throw into it, in ſome certain place, either grains or blood mixt with cow-dung, or with bran; or any garbage, as chicken's guts or the like, and then ſome of your ſmall ſweet pellets with which you purpoſe to angle: and theſe ſmall pellets being a few of them alſo thrown in as you are angling, will be the better.

And your paſte muſt be thus made: take the fleſh of a rabbet or cat cut ſmall, and bean-flour, and if that may not be eaſily got, get other flour, and then mix theſe together, and put to them either ſugar, or honey, which I think better, and then beat theſe together in a mortar, or ſometimes work them in your hands, your hands being very clean, and then make it into a ball, or two, or three, as you like beſt for your uſe; but you muſt work or pound it ſo long in the mortar, as to make it ſo tough as to hang upon your hook without waſhing from it, yet not too hard; or that you may the better keep it on your hook, you may knead with your paſte a little, and not much, white or yellowiſh wool.

And if you would have this paſte keep all the year for any other fiſh, then mix with it virgin-wax and clarified honey, and work them together with

with your hands before the fire, then make theſe into balls, and they will keep all the year.

And if you fiſh for a Carp with gentles, then put upon your hook a ſmall piece of ſcarlet about this bigneſs , it being ſoked in, or anointed with oyl of peter, called by ſome oyl of the rock, and if your gentles be put two or three days before, into a box or horn anointed with honey, and ſo put upon your hook as to preſerve them to be living, you are as like to kill this crafty fiſh this way as any other; but ſtill as you are fiſhing chaw a little white or brown bread in your mouth, and caſt it into the pond about the place where your float ſwims. Other baits there be, but theſe with diligence, and patient watchfulneſs, will do it better than any that I have ever practiſed, or heard of: And yet I ſhall tell you, that the crumbs of white bread and honey made into a paſte is a good bait for a Carp, and you know it is more eaſily made. And having ſaid thus much of the Carp*, my next diſcourſe

* The *haunts* of River-Carp are, in the Winter-months, the broadeſt and moſt quiet parts of the river; but in Summer, they lie in deep holes, nooks, and reaches, near ſome ſcour, and under roots of trees, hollow banks, and, till they are near rotting, amongſt or near great beds of weeds, flags, &c.

Pond-Carp cannot, with propriety, be ſaid to have any *haunts*, only it is to be noted, that they love a fat, rich ſoil, and never thrive in a cold, hungry water.

They breed three or four times a year; but their firſt *ſpawning*-time is the beginning of *May*.

Baits for the Carp are all ſorts of Earth and Dunghill-Worms, Flag-Worms, Graſshoppers, though not at top, Ox-Brains, the Pith of an Ox's Back-bone, Green Peaſe, and Red or Black Cherries, with the ſtones taken out.

Fiſh,

courſe ſhall be of the Bream, which ſhall not prove ſo tedious, and therefore I deſire the continuance of your attention.

But firſt I will tell you how to make this Carp, that is ſo curious to be caught, ſo curious a diſh of meat, as ſhall make him worth all your labour and patience, and though it is not without ſome trouble and charges, yet it will recompence both.

Take a Carp, alive if poſſible, ſcour him, and rub him clean with water and ſalt, but ſcale him not; then open him, and put him with his blood and his liver, which you muſt ſave when you open him, into a ſmall pot or kettle; then take ſweet marjoram, time and parſley, of each half a handful, a ſprig of roſemary, and another of ſavoury, bind them into two or three ſmall bundles, and put them to your Carp, with four or five whole onions, twenty pickled oyſters, and three anchovies. Then pour upon your Carp as much claret wine as will only cover him; and ſeaſon your claret well with ſalt, cloves and mace, and the rinds of oranges and lemons, that done,

Fiſh, with ſtrong tackle, very near the bottom, and with a fine Graſs or Gut next the hook, and uſe a Gooſe-quill float. Never attempt to angle for Carp in a boat, for they will not come near it.

It is ſaid there are many Carp in the *Thames*, weſtward of *London*; and that about *February* they retire to the creeks in that river; in ſome of which many have been taken with an Angle above two foot long. *Angler's ſure guide.* 179.

Carp live the longeſt out of the water of any fiſh. It is a common practice in *Holland*, and here too, to keep them alive for three weeks or a month; which is done by hanging them in a cool place, with wet moſs in a net, and feeding them with bread and milk.

cover

cover your pot and ſet it on a quick fire, till it be ſufficiently boiled; then take out the Carp and lay it with the broth into the diſh, and pour upon it a quarter of a pound of the beſt freſh butter, melted and beaten with half a dozen ſpoonfuls of the broth, the yolks of two or three eggs, and ſome of the herbs ſhred; garniſh your diſh with lemons, and ſo ſerve it up, and much good do you.

Dr. *T.*

CHAP. X.

Obſervations of the BREAM, *and Directions to catch him.*

PISCATOR.

THE Bream being at a full growth, is a large and ſtately fiſh: he will breed both in rivers and ponds: but loves beſt to live in ponds, and where, if he likes the water and air, he will grow not only to be very large, but as fat as a hog: he is by *Geſner* taken to be more pleaſant or ſweet than wholſome; this fiſh is long in growing, but breeds exceedingly in a water that pleaſes him; yea, in many ponds ſo faſt, as to over ſtore them, and ſtarve the other fiſh.

He is very broad with a forked tail, and his ſcales ſet in excellent order; he hath large eyes, and a narrow ſucking mouth; he hath two ſets of

of teeth, and a lozenge-like bone, a bone to help his grinding. The melter is obſerved to have two large melts, and the female two large bags of eggs or ſpawn.

Geſner reports, that in *Poland* a certain, and a great number of large Breams were put into a pond, which in the next following winter were frozen up into one intire ice, and not one drop of water remaining, nor one of theſe fiſh to be found, though they were diligently ſearched for; and yet the next ſpring when the ice was thawed, and the weather warm, and freſh water got into the pond, he affirms they all appeared again. This *Geſner* affirms, and I quote my author, becauſe it ſeems almoſt as incredible as the reſurrection to an Atheiſt. But it may win ſomething in point of believing it, to him that conſiders the breeding or renovation of the ſilk-worm, and of many inſects. And that is conſiderable which Sir *Francis Bacon* obſerves in his hiſtory of life and death, fol. 20. that there be ſome herbs that die and ſpring every year, and ſome endure longer.

But though ſome do not, yet the *French* eſteem this fiſh highly, and to that end have this proverb, "He that hath Breams in his pond is able to bid "his friend welcome." And it is noted, that the beſt part of a Bream is his belly and head.

Some ſay, that Breams and Roaches will mix their eggs and melt together, and ſo there is in many places a baſtard breed of Breams, that never come to be either large or good, but very numerous.

The baits good to catch this

BREAM

are many. 1. Paſte made of brown bread and honey, gentles, or the brood of waſps that be young, and then not unlike gentles, and ſhould be hardned in an oven, or dried on a tile before the fire to make them tough; or there is at the root of docks or flags, or ruſhes in watry places, a worm not unlike a maggot, at which Tench will bite freely. Or he will bite at a graſhopper with his legs nipt off in *June* and *July*, or at ſeveral flies under water, which may be found on flags that grow near to the water-ſide. I doubt not but that there be many other baits that are good, but I will turn them all into this moſt excellent one, either for a Carp or Bream, in any river or mere: it was given to me by a moſt honeſt and excellent Angler, and hoping you will prove both, I will impart it to you.

1. Let your bait be as big a red-worm as you can find, without a knot; get a pint or quart of them

them in an evening in garden walks, or chalky commons, after a ſhower of rain; and put them with clean moſs well waſhed and picked, and the water ſqueezed out of the moſs as dry as you can, into an earthen pot or pipkin ſet dry, and change the moſs freſh every three or four days for three weeks or a month together; then your bait will be at the beſt, for it will be clear and lively.

2. Having thus prepared your baits, get your tackling ready and fitted for this ſport. Take three long angling-rods, and as many and more ſilk, or ſilk and hair lines, and as many large ſwan or gooſe-quill floats. Then take a piece of lead made after this manner, and faſten them to the low-ends of your lines. Then faſten your link-hook alſo to the lead, and let there be about a foot or ten inches between the lead and the hook; but be ſure the lead be heavy enough to ſink the float or quill a little under the water, and not the quill to bear up the lead, for the lead muſt lie on the ground. Note, that your link next the hook may be ſmaller than the reſt of your line, if you dare adventure, for fear of taking the Pike or Pearch, who will aſſuredly viſit your hooks, till they be taken out, as I will ſhew you afterwards, before either Carp or Bream will come near to bite. Note alſo, that when the worm is well baited, it will crawl up and down, as far as the lead will give leave, which much enticeth the fiſh to bite without ſuſpicion.

3. Having thus prepared your baits, and fitted your tackling, repair to the river, where you have ſeen them to ſwim in ſkuls or ſhoals in the ſummer time in a hot afternoon, about three or

four of the clock, and watch their going forth of their deep holes and returning, which you may well diſcern, for they return about four of the clock, moſt of them ſeeking food at the bottom, yet one or two will lie on the top of the water, rolling and tumbling themſelves whilſt the reſt are under him at the bottom, and ſo you ſhall percieve him to keep centinel; then mark where he plays moſt, and ſtays longeſt, which commonly is in the broadeſt and deepeſt place of the river, and there, or near thereabouts, at a clear bottom, and a convenient landing-place, take one of your angles ready fitted as aforeſaid, and ſound the bottom, which ſhould be about eight or ten foot deep, two yards from the bank is the beſt. Then conſider with yourſelf whether that water will riſe or fall by the next morning, by reaſon of any water-mills near, and according to your diſcretion take the depth of the place, where you mean after to caſt your ground-bait, and to fiſh, to half an inch; that the lead lying on or near the ground-bait, the top of the float may only appear upright half an inch above the water.

Thus you having found and fitted for the place and depth thereof, then go home and prepare your ground-bait, which is next to the fruit of your labours, to be regarded.

The *Ground-Bait.*

You ſhall take a peck, or a peck and a half, according to the greatneſs of the ſtream, and deepneſs of the water, where you mean to Angle, of ſweet groſs-ground barley malt, and boil it in a kettle; one or two warms is enough, then ſtrain it

it through a bag into a tub, the liquor whereof hath often done my horſe much good, and when the bag and malt is near cold, take it down to the water-ſide about eight or nine of the clock in the evening, and not before; caſt in two parts of your ground-bait, ſqueezed hard between both your hands, it will ſink preſently to the bottom, and be ſure it may reſt in the very place where you mean to Angle; if the ſtream run hard or move a little, caſt your malt in handfuls a little the higher, upwards the ſtream. You may between your hands cloſe the malt ſo faſt in handfuls, that the water will hardly part it with the fall.

Your ground thus baited, and tackling fitted, leave your bag with the reſt of your tackling and ground-bait near the ſporting-place all night, and in the morning about three or four of the clock viſit the water-ſide, but not too near, for they have a cunning watchman, and are watchful themſelves too.

Then gently take one of your three rods, and bait your hook, caſting it over your ground-bait, and gently and ſecretly draw it to you till the lead reſts about the middle of the ground-bait.

Then take a ſecond rod and caſt in about a yard above, and your third a yard below the firſt rod, and ſtay the rods in the ground, but go yourſelf ſo far from the water-ſide, that you percieve nothing but the top of the floars, which you muſt watch moſt diligently; then when you have a bite, you ſhall percieve the top of your float to ſink ſuddenly into the water; yet nevertheleſs be not too haſty to run to your rods, until you ſee that the line goes clear away, then creep

to the water-ſide, and give as much line as poſſibly you can: if it be a good Carp or Bream, they will go to the farther-ſide of the river, then ſtrike gently, and hold your rod at a bent a little while; but if you both pull together you are ſure to loſe your game, for either your line or hook, or hold will break; and after you have overcome them, they will make noble ſport, and are very ſhie to be landed. The Carp is far ſtronger and more mettleſome than the Bream.

Much more is to be obſerved in this kind of fiſh and fiſhing, but it is far fitter for experience and diſcourſe than paper. Only thus much is neceſſary for you to know, and to be mindful and careful of; that if the *Pike* or *Perch* do breed in that river, they will be ſure to bite firſt, and muſt firſt be taken. And for the moſt part they are very large, and will repair to your ground-bait, not that they will eat of it, but will feed and ſport themſelves amongſt the young fry, that gather about and hover over the bait.

The way to diſcern the Pike and to take him, if you miſtruſt your Bream-hook, for I have taken a Pike a yard long ſeveral times at my Bream-hooks, and ſometimes he hath had the luck to ſhare my line, may be thus:

Take a ſmall Bleak, or Roach, or Gudgeon, and bait it, and ſet it alive among your rods two foot deep from the cork, with a little red-worm on the point of the hook; then take a few crums of white-bread, or ſome of the ground-bait, and ſprinkle it gently amongſt your rods. If Mr. *Pike* be there, then the little fiſh will ſkip out of the water at his appearance, but the live-ſet bait is ſure to be taken.

Thus

Thus continue your ſport from four in the morning till eight, and if it be a gloomy, windy day, they will bite all day long. But this is too long to ſtand to your rods at one place, and it will ſpoil your evening-ſport that day, which is this.

About four of the clock in the afternoon repair to your baited place; and as ſoon as you come to the water-ſide, caſt in one half of the reſt of your ground-bait, and ſtand off: then whilſt the fiſh are gathering together, for there they will moſt certainly come for their ſupper, you may take a pipe of tobacco; and then in with your three rods as in the morning: You will find excellent ſport that evening till eight of the clock; then caſt in the reſidue of your ground-bait, and next morning by four of the clock viſit them again for four hours, which is the beſt ſport of all; and after that, let them reſt till you and your friends have a mind to more ſport.

From St. *James's*-tide until *Bartholomew*-tide is the beſt; when they have had all the ſummers food, they are the fatteſt.

Obſerve laſtly, that after three or four days fiſhing together, your game will be very ſhie and wary; and you ſhall hardly get above a bite or two at a baiting; then your only way is to deſiſt from your ſport about two or three days; and in the mean time, on the place you late baited, and again intend to bait, you ſhall take a turf of green, but ſhort graſs, as big or bigger than a round trencher; to the top of this turf, on the green ſide, you ſhall with a needle and green thred faſten one by one as many little red-worms as will near cover all the turf: Then take a round board or trencher, make a hole in the

middle thereof, and through the turf, placed on the board or trencher, with a ſtring or cord as long as is fitting, tied to a pole, let it down to the bottom of the water for the fiſh to feed upon without diſturbance about two or three days; and after that you have drawn it away, you may fall to, and enjoy your former recreation *.

B. A.

CHAP. XI.

Obſervations of the TENCH, *and advice how to Angle for him.*

PISCATOR.

THE Tench, the phyſician of fiſhes, is obſerved to love ponds better than rivers, and to love pits better than either; yet *Camden* obſerves there is a river in *Dorſetſhire* that abounds with Tenches, but doubtleſs they retire to the moſt deep and quiet places in it.

This fiſh hath very large fins, very ſmall and ſmooth ſcales, a red circle about his eyes, which

* The *haunts* of the Bream, a fiſh which the Angler ſeldom meets with, are the deepeſt and broadeſt parts of gentle, ſoft ſtreams with ſandy, clayey bottoms, and the broadeſt and moſt quiet places of ponds, and where there are weeds.

They *ſpawn* about the beginning of *July*; a little before which time they are beſt in ſeaſon, though ſome think them beſt in *September*.

The Baits for the Pream are, Red-worms, ſmall Lob, or Marſh-worms, Gentles, and Graſshoppers.

In general they are to be fiſhed for as Carp.

are

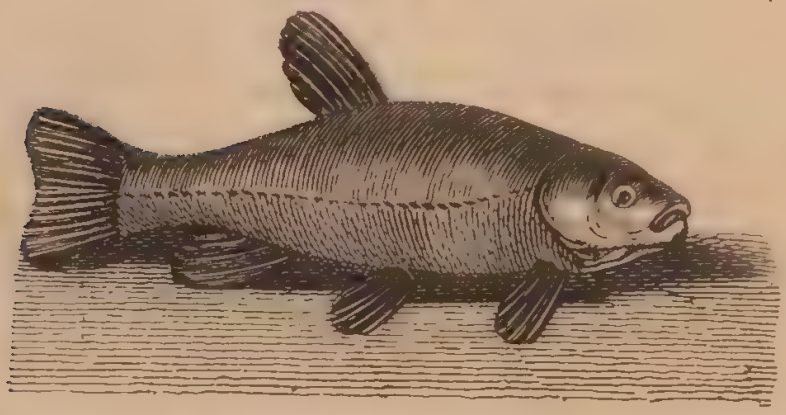
are big and of a gold-colour, and from either Angle of his mouth there hangs down a little Barb; in every Tench's head there are two little ſtones, which forraign phyſicians make great uſe of; but he is not commended for wholſom meat, though there be very much uſe made of them, for outward applications. *Rondeletius* ſays, That at his being at *Rome*, he ſaw a great cure done by applying a Tench to the feet of a very ſick man. This he ſays was done after an unuſual manner by certain Jews. And it is obſerved that many of thoſe people have many ſecrets, yet unknown to Chriſtians; ſecrets that have never yet been written, but have been ſince the days of their *Solomon*, who knew the nature of all things, even from the cedar to the ſhrub, delivered by tradition from the father to the ſon, and ſo from generation to generation without writing, or unleſs it were caſually, without the leaſt communicating them to any other nation or tribe: for to do that, they account a prophanation. And yet it is thought that they, or ſome ſpirit worſe than they, firſt told us, that lice ſwallowed alive were a certain cure for the Yellow-Jaundice. This, and many other medicines were diſcover'd by them or by revelation; for, doubtleſs, we attain'd them not by ſtudy.

Well, this fiſh, beſides his eating, is very uſeful both dead and alive for the good of mankind. But I will meddle no more with that, my honeſt humble art teaches no ſuch boldneſs; there are too many fooliſh medlers in phyſick and divinity, that think themſelves fit to meddle with hidden ſecrets, and ſo bring deſtruction to their followers. But I'll not meddle with them any farther than

than to wiſh them wiſer; and ſhall tell you next, for, I hope, I may be ſo bold, that the Tench is the phyſician of fiſhes, for the Pike eſpecially, and that the Pike, being either ſick or hurt, is cured by the touch of the Tench. And it is obſerved, that the tyrant Pike will not be a wolf to his phyſician, but forbears to devour him though he be never ſo hungry.

This fiſh, that carries a natural balſome in him to cure both himſelf and others, loves yet to feed in very foul water, and amongſt weeds. And yet I am ſure he eats pleaſantly, and, doubtleſs, you will think ſo too, if you taſt him. And I ſhall therefore proceed to give you ſome few, and but a few, directions how to catch this

TENCH



of which I have given you theſe obſervations.

He will bite at a paſte made of brown bread and honey, or at a Marſh-worm, or a Lob-worm; he inclines very much to any paſte with which tar is mixt, and he will bite alſo at a ſmaller worm,

worm, with his head nipp'd off, and a Cod-worm put on the hook before that worm; and I doubt not but that he will alſo in the three hot months, for in the nine colder he ſtirs not much, bite at a Flag-worm, or at a green gentle, but can poſitively ſay no more of the Tench, he being a fiſh that I have not often Angled for *, but I wiſh my honeſt ſcholar may, and be ever fortunate when he fiſhes.

CHAP. XII.

Obſervations of the PEARCH. *and directions how to fiſh for him,*

PISCATOR.

THE Pearch is a very good, and a very bold-biting fiſh; he is one of the fiſhes of prey, that, like the Pike and Trout, carries his teeth in his mouth; which is very large, and he dare venture to kill and devour ſeveral other kinds of fiſh: he has a hook't or

* The *haunts* of the Tench are nearly the ſame with thoſe of the Carp; they delight more in ponds than in rivers, and lie under weeds, near ſluices, and at pond-heads.

They *ſpawn* about the beginning of *July*, and are beſt in ſeaſon from the beginning of *September* to the end of *May*: they will bite all the hot months, but are beſt taken in *April* and *May*.

There are no better *Baits* for this fiſh than a middle-ſized Lob-worm, or Red-worm, well ſcoured, a Gentle, a young Waſp-

or hog back, which is armed with ſharp and ſtiff briſtles, and all his ſkin armed or covered over with thick, dry, hard ſcales, and hath, which few other fiſh have, two fins on his back: he is ſo bold, that he will invade one of his own kind, which the Pike will not do ſo willingly, and, you may therefore eaſily believe him to be a bold biter.

The Pearch is of great eſteem in *Italy*, ſaith *Aldrovandus*, and eſpecially the leaſt are there eſteemed a dainty diſh. And *Geſner* prefers the Pearch and Pike above the Trout, or any freſh-water-fiſh: he ſays the *Germans* have this Proverb, "More wholſom than a Pearch of *Rhine*:" and he ſays the River-Pearch is ſo wholſom, that Phyſicians allow him to be eaten by wounded men, or by men in feavers, or by women in child-bed.

He ſpawns but once a year, and is by Phyſicians held very nutritive; yet by many to be hard of digeſtion: they abound more in the River *Po* and in *England*, ſays *Rondeletius*, than other parts, and have in their brain a ſtone which is in forraign parts ſold by apothecaries, being there noted to be very medicinable againſt the ſtone in the reins: theſe be a part of the commendations which ſome philoſophical brains have be-

Waſp-grub, boiled, or a green Worm ſhook from the boughs of trees.

Uſe a ſtrong graſs, or gut, and a Gooſe-quill float, without a cork, except in rivers, where the cork is always to be preferred.

Fiſh very near the ground; and if you bait with Gentles, throw in a few at the taking every fiſh; which will draw them to your hook, and keep them together.

ſtowed

ſtowed upon the freſh-water Pearch: yet they commend the Sea-Pearch, which is known by having but one fin on his back, of which they ſay, we *Engliſh* ſee but a few, to be a much better fiſh.

The Pearch grows ſlowly, yet will grow, as I have been credibly informed, to be almoſt two foot long; for an honeſt informer told me, ſuch a one was not long ſince taken by Sir *Abraham Williams*, a gentleman of worth, and a brother of the Angle, that yet lives, and I wiſh he may: this was a deep-bodied fiſh: and doubtleſs durſt have devoured a Pike of half his own length: for I have told you, he is a bold fiſh, ſuch a one as, but for extreme hunger, the Pike will not devour: for to affright the Pike and ſave himſelf the Pearch will ſet up his fins, much like as a Turkie-Cock will ſometimes ſet up his tail.

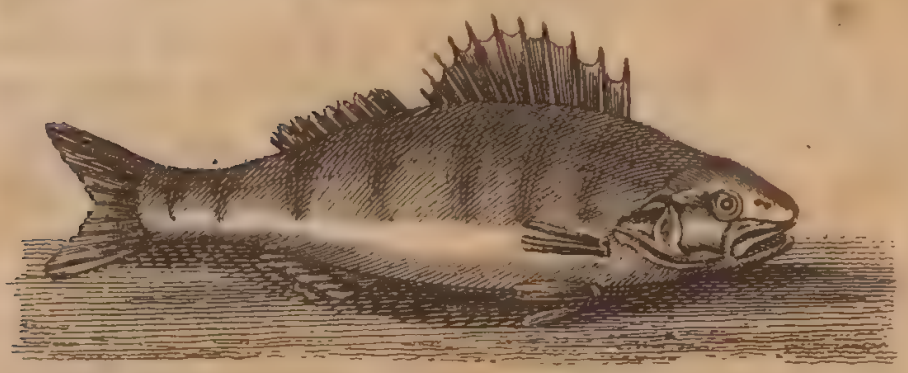
But, my ſcholar, the Pearch is not only valiant to defend himſelf, but he is, as I ſaid, a bold-biting fiſh, yet he will not bite at all ſeaſons of the year; he is very abſtemious in winter, yet will bite then in the midſt of the day, if it be warm: and note, that all fiſh bite beſt about the Midſt of a warm day in winter, and he hath been obſerved by ſome, not uſually to bite till the Mulberry-tree buds; that is to ſay, till extreme froſts be paſt the ſpring; for when the Mulberry-tree bloſſoms, many Gardners obſerve their forward fruit to be paſt the danger of froſts, and ſome have made the like obſervation of the Pearch's biting.

But bite the Pearch will, and that very boldly: and as one has wittily obſerved, if there be twenty or forty in a hole, they may be at one ſtanding

ſtanding all catch'd one after another; they being, as he ſays, like the wicked of the world, not afraid, though their fellows and companions periſh in their ſight. And you may obſerve, that they are not like the ſolitary Pike; but love to accompany one another, and march together in troops.

And the baits for this bold fiſh

PEARCH



are not many; I mean, he will bite as well at ſome, or at any of theſe three, as at any, or all others whatſoever: a Worm, a Minnow, or a little Frog, of which you may find many in hay-time, and of worms, the dunghill-worm, called a Brandling, I take to be beſt, being well ſcow-red in moſs or fennel; or he will bite at a worm that lies under cow-dung with a blueiſh head. And if you rove for a Pearch with a Minnow, then it is beſt to be alive, you ſticking your hook through his back-fin; or a Minnow with the hook

hook in his upper lip, and letting him ſwim up and down about mid-water, or a little lower, and you ſtill keeping him to about that depth, by a cork, which ought not to be a very little one: and the like way you are to fiſh for the Pearch, with a ſmall frog, your hook being faſtned through the ſkin of his leg, towards the upper part of it: and laſtly, I will give you but this advice, that you give the Pearch time enough when he bites, for there was ſcarce ever any Angler that has given him too much. And now I think beſt to reſt myſelf, for I have almoſt ſpent my ſpirits with talking ſo long.

Ven. Nay, good maſter, one fiſh more, for you ſee it rains ſtill, and you know our Angles are like mony put to uſury; they may thrive, though we ſit ſtill and do nothing but talk and enjoy one another. Come, come the other fiſh, good maſter.

Piſc. But ſcholar, have you nothing to mix with this diſcourſe, which now grows both tedious and tireſom? ſhall I have nothing from you that ſeem to have both a good memory, and a chearful ſpirit?

Ven. Yes, maſter, I will ſpeak you a copy of verſes that were made by Doctor *Donne*, and made to ſhew the world that he could make ſoft and ſmooth verſes when he thought ſmoothneſs worth his labour; and I love them the better, becauſe they allude to rivers, and fiſh and fiſhing. They be theſe:

Come live with me, and be my love,
And we will ſome new pleaſures prove,

Of golden ſands, and chryſtal brooks,
With ſilken lines, and ſilver hooks.

There will the river whiſp'ring run,
Warm'd by thy eyes more than the Sun;
And there the enamel'd fiſh will ſtay,
Begging themſelves they may betray.

When thou wilt ſwim in that live bath,
Each fiſh, which ev'ry channel hath,
Moſt am'rouſly to thee will ſwim,
Gladder to catch thee, than thou him.

If thou, to be ſo ſeen, beeſt loath,
By ſun or moon, thou dark'neſt both,
And if mine eyes have leave to ſee,
I need not their light, having thee.

Let others freeze with Angling-reeds,
And cut their legs with ſhells and weeds,
Or treach'rouſly poor fiſh beſet,
With ſtrangling ſnares, or windowy net.

Let coarſe bold hands, from ſlimy neſt,
The bedded fiſh in banks outwreſt;
Let curious traytors ſleave ſilk flies,
To 'witch poor wandring fiſhes eyes.

For thee, thou needſt no ſuch deceit,
For thou thy ſelf art thine own bait:
That fiſh that is not catcht thereby,
Is wiſer far, alas, than I.

Piſc. Well remembred, honeſt ſcholar, I thank you for theſe choice verſes, which I have heard

heard formerly, but had quite forgot, till they were recovered by your happy memory. Well, being I have now reſted my ſelf a little, I will make you ſome requital, by telling you ſome obſervations of the Eel, for it rains ſtill, and becauſe as you ſay, our Angles are as mony put to uſe, that thrives when we play, therefore we'll ſit ſtill and enjoy ourſelves a little longer under this honey-ſuckle-hedg *.

* Although Pearch, like Trout, delight in clear, ſwift rivers, with pebly, gravelly bottoms; they are often found in ſandy, clayey ſoils: they love a moderately-deep water, and frequent holes by the ſides of, or near, little ſtreams, and the hollows under banks.

The Pearch *ſpawns* about the beginning of *March*: the beſt time of the year to angle for him is from the beginning of *May* till the end of *June*; yet you may continue to fiſh for him till the end of *September*; he is beſt taken in cloudy, windy weather, and, as ſome ſay, from ſeven to ten in the forenoon, and from two to ſeven in the afternoon.

Other *Baits* for the Pearch are, Loaches, Miller's-thumbs, Sticklebacks, ſmall Lob, and Marſh, and Red-worms, well ſcoured, Horſe-beans boiled, Cad-bait, Oak-worms, Bobs and Gentles,

Many of theſe fiſh are taken in the rivers about *Oxford*; and the author of *The Angler's ſure guide* ſays, he once ſaw the figure of a Pearch drawn with a pencil on the door of a houſe near that city, which was twenty nine inches long, and was informed it was the true dimenſion of a living Pearch. *Angl. ſure guide.* 155.

The largeſt Pearch are taken with a Minnow, hooked with a good hold through the back-fin, or rather through the upper-lip; for the Pearch, by reaſon of the figure of his mouth, cannot take the Bait croſs-wiſe, as the Pike will: when you fiſh thus, uſe a large cork float, and lead your line about nine Inches from the bottom, otherwiſe the Minnow will come to the top of the water. But, in the ordinary way of fiſhing, let your Bait hang within about ſix inches from the ground.

CHAP. XIII.

Obſervations of the EEL, *and other fiſh that want ſcales, and how to fiſh for them.*

PISCATOR.

IT is agreed by moſt men, that the Eel is a moſt daintie fiſh; the *Romans* have eſteemed her the *Helena* of their feaſts, and ſome the *Queen of palat-pleaſure*. But moſt men differ about their breeding: ſome ſay they breed by generation as other fiſh do, and others, that they breed, as ſome worms do, of mud, as Rats and Mice, and many other living creatures are bred in *Egypt*, by the Sun's heat when it ſhines upon the overflowing of the river *Nilus*: or out of the putrefaction of the earth, and divers other wayes. Thoſe that deny them to breed by generation as other fiſh do, aſk, if any man ever ſaw an Eel to have a ſpawn or melt? and they are anſwered, that they may be as certain of their breeding as if they had ſeen ſpawn: for they ſay, that they are certain that Eels have all parts fit for generation, like other fiſh *, but ſo ſmall as not to be eaſily diſcerned, by reaſon of their fatneſs, but that diſcerned they may be, and that the he and the ſhe-Eel may be diſtinguiſhed by their fins. And *Rondeletius* ſaies, he has ſeen Eels cling together like Dew-worms.

* That fiſhes are furniſhed with parts fit for generation cannot be doubted; ſince it is a common practice to caſtrate them. See the method of doing it in *Philoſ. Tranſ.* Vol. XLVIII. Part II. for the year 1754. Page 870.

And

And others ſay, that Eels growing old, breed other Eels out of the corruption of their own age, which Sir *Francis Bacon* ſayes, exceeds not ten years. And others ſay, that as Pearls are made of glutinous dew-drops, which are condenſed by the Sun's heat in thoſe Countries, ſo Eels are bred of a particular dew falling in the months of *May* or *June* on the banks of ſome particular ponds or rivers, apted by nature for that end, which in a few dayes are by the Sun's heat turned into Eels; and ſome of the ancients have called the Eels that are thus bred, the offſpring of *Jove*. I have ſeen in the beginning of *July*, in a river not far from *Canterbury*, ſome parts of it covered over with young Eels, about the thickneſs of a ſtraw; and theſe Eels did lie on the top of that water, as thick as motes are ſaid to be in the Sun: and I have heard the like of other rivers, as namely in *Severn*, where they are called *Yelvers*, and in a pond or mere near unto *Staffordſhire*, where about a ſet time in ſummer, ſuch ſmall Eels abound ſo much, that many of the poorer ſort of people, that inhabit near to it, take ſuch Eels out of this mere, with ſieves or ſheets, and make a kind of Eel-cake of them, and eat it like as bread. And *Geſner* quotes venerable *Bede* * to ſay, that in *England* there is an Iſland called *Ely*, by reaſon of the innumerable number of Eels that breed in it. But that

* The moſt univerſal ſcholar of his time: he was born at *Durham* about 671, and bred under St. *John* of *Beverly*. It is ſaid that Pope *Sergius* the firſt, invited him to *Rome*; though others ſay he never ſtirred out of his cell. He was a man of great virtue, and remarkable for a moſt ſweet and engaging diſpoſition: he died in 734, and lies buried at

that Eels may be bred as ſome worms, and ſome kind of Bees and Waſps are, either of dew, or out of the corruption of the earth, ſeems to be made probable by the Barnacles and young Goſlings bred by the Sun's heat, and the rotten planks of an old Ship, and hatched of trees; both which are related for truths by *du Bartas* and *Lobel*, and alſo by our learned *Camden*, and laborious *Gerhard* in his *Herbal*.

It is ſaid by *Rondeletius*, that thoſe Eels that are bred in rivers that relate to, or be nearer to the ſea, never return to the freſh waters, as the Salmon does always deſire to do, when they have once taſted the ſalt water; and I do the more eaſily believe this, becauſe I am certain that powdered beef is a moſt excellent bait to catch an Eel: and though Sir *Francis Bacon* will allow the Eel's life to be but ten years; yet he, in his hiſtory of life and death, mentions a Lamprey belonging to the *Roman* emperour to be made tame, and ſo kept for almoſt threeſcore years: and that ſuch uſeful and pleaſant obſervations were made of this Lamprey, that *Craſſus* the orator, who kept her, lamented her death. And we read in doctor *Hakewill*, that *Hortenſius* was ſeen to weep at the death of a Lamprey that he had kept long, and loved exceedingly *.

Durham. His works make eight volumes in Folio. See his life in the *Biogr. Britann.*

* The author, Page 137, has cited from *Pliny* an inſtance of the fondneſs of *Antonia*, a woman, for a tame Lamprey; which the tenderneſs of her ſex might perhaps excuſe; but the ſagacity and docibleneſs of theſe creatures ſeem leſs wonderful than the weakneſs of ſuch men as *Craſſus* and *Hortenſius*, in becoming mourners for the death of an Eel.

It

It is granted by all, or moſt men, that Eels, for about ſix months, that is to ſay, the ſix cold months of the year ſtir not up and down, neither in the rivers, nor in the pools in which they uſually are, but get into the ſoft earth or mud, and there many of them together bed themſelves, and live without feeding upon any thing, as I have told you ſome Swallows have been obſerved to do in hollow trees for thoſe ſix cold months: and this the Eel and Swallow do, as not being able to endure winter-weather: for *Geſner* quotes *Albertus* to ſay, that in the year 1125, that year's winter being more cold than uſually, Eels did by nature's inſtinct get out of the water into a ſtack of hay in a meadow upon drie ground, and there bedded themſelves, but yet at laſt a froſt kill'd them. And our *Camden* relates, that in *Lancaſhire*, fiſhes were dig'd out of the earth with ſpades, where no water was near to the place. I ſhall ſay little more of the Eel, but that, as it is obſerved he is impatient of cold, ſo it hath been obſerved, that in warm weather an Eel has been known to live five days out of the water.

And laſtly, let me tell you that ſome curious ſearchers into the natures of fiſh, obſerve that there be ſeveral ſorts or kinds of Eels, as the *ſilver* Eel, and *green* or *greeniſh* Eel, with which the river of *Thames* abounds, and thoſe are called *Grigs*; and a *blackiſh* Eel, whoſe head is more flat and bigger than ordinary Eels; and alſo an Eel whoſe fins are *reddiſh*, and but ſeldom taken in this Nation, and yet taken ſometimes: theſe ſeveral kinds of Eels are ſay ſome, diverſly bred, as namely, out of the corruption of the earth, and ſome by dew, and other wayes,

as I have ſaid to you: and yet it is affirmed by ſome for a certain, that the ſilver Eel is bred by generation, but not by ſpawning as other fiſh do, but that her brood come alive from her, being then little, live Eels no bigger nor longer than a pin; and I have had too many teſtimonies of this to doubt the truth of it myſelf, and if I thought it needful I might prove it, but I think it is needleſs.

And this Eel, of which I have ſaid ſo much to you, may be caught with divers kinds of baits: as namely with powdered beef, with a Lob or Garden-worm, with a Minnow, or gut of a Hen, Chicken, or the guts of any fiſh, or with almoſt any thing, for he is a greedy fiſh; but the Eel may be caught eſpecially with a little, a very little Lamprey, which ſome call a *Pride*, and may in the hot months be found many of them in the river *Thames*, and in many mud-heaps in other rivers, yea, almoſt as uſually as one finds worms in a dunghill.

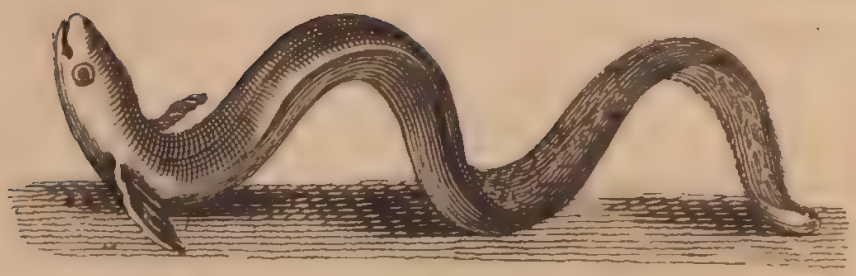
Next note, that the Eel ſeldom ſtirs in the day, but then hides himſelf, and therefore he is uſually caught by night, with one of theſe baits of which I have ſpoken, and may be then caught by laying hooks, which you are to faſten to the bank or twigs of a tree; or by throwing a ſtring croſs the ſtream with many hooks at it, and thoſe baited with the aforeſaid baits, and a clod, or plummet, or ſtone, thrown into the river with this line, that ſo you may in the morning find it near to ſome fixt place, and then take it up with a drag-hook or otherwiſe: but theſe things are indeed too common to be ſpoken of, and an hour's fiſhing with any Angler will teach you better

ter both for theſe and many other common things in the practical part of Angling, than a week's diſcourſe. I ſhall therefore conclude this direction for taking the Eel, by telling you, that in a warm day in ſummer I have taken many a good Eel by *ſnigling*, and have been much pleaſed with that ſport.

And becauſe you that are but a young Angler, know not what ſnigling is, I will now teach it to you. You remember I told you that Eels do not uſually ſtir in the day-time, for then they hide themſelves under ſome covert, or under boards or planks about flood-gates, or weires, or mills, or in holes in the river-banks; ſo that you obſerving your time in a warm day, when the water is loweſt, may take a ſtrong, ſmall hook tied to a ſtrong line, or to a ſtring about a yard long, and then into one of theſe holes, or between any boards about a mill, or under any great ſtone or plank, or any place where you think an Eel may hide or ſhelter herſelf, you may with the help of a ſhort ſtick put in your bait, but leiſurely, and as far as you may conveniently: and it is ſcarce to be doubted, but that if there be an Eel within the ſight of it, the Eel will bite inſtantly, and as certainly gorge it: and you need not doubt to have him, if you pull him not out of the hole too quickly, but pull him out by degrees, for he lying folded double in his hole, will with the help of his tail break all, unleſs you give him time to be wearied with pulling, and ſo get him out by degrees, not pulling too hard.

And to commute for your patient hearing this long direction, I ſhall next tell you how to make this

EEL



a moſt excellent diſh of meat:

Firſt, waſh him in water and ſalt, then puſh off his ſkin below his vent or navel, and not much further: having done that, take out his guts as clean as you can, but waſh him not: then give him three or four ſcotches with a knife, and then put into his belly and thoſe ſcotches, ſweet herbs, an anchovy, and a little nutmeg grated, or cut very ſmall, and your herbs and anchovies muſt alſo be cut very ſmall, and mixt with good butter and ſalt; having done this, then pull his ſkin over him all but his head, which you are to cut off, to the end you may tie his ſkin about that part where his head grew, and it muſt be ſo tyed as to keep all his moiſture within his ſkin: and having done this, tie him with tape or packthred to a ſpit, and roaſt him leiſurely, and baſte him with water and ſalt till his ſkin breaks, and then with butter: and having roaſted him enough,

let

let what was put into his belly, and what he drips, be his ſawce.

S. F.

When I go to dreſs an Eel thus, I wiſh he were as long and big, as that which was caught in *Peterborough* river in the year 1667, which was a yard and three quarters long. If you will not believe me, then go and ſee at one of the Coffee-houſes in *King-ſtreet* in *Weſtminſter*.

But now let me tell you, that though the Eel thus dreſt be not only excellent good, but more harmleſs than any other way, yet it is certain, that phyſicians account the Eel dangerous meat; I will adviſe you therefore, as *Solomon* ſays of honey, *Prov.* 25, "haſt thou found it, eat no "more than is ſufficient, leſt thou ſurfeit, for it "is not good to eat much honey." And let me add this, that the uncharitable *Italian* bids us, "give Eels, and no wine to our Enemies."

And I will beg a little more of your attention to tell you, that *Aldrovandus* and divers phyſicians commend the Eel very much for medicine, though not for meat. But let me tell you one obſervation; that the Eel is never out of ſeaſon, as Trouts and moſt other fiſh are at ſet times, at leaſt moſt Eels are not*.

I

* The *haunts* of the Eel are weeds, under roots, ſtumps of trees, holes, and clefts of the earth, both in the banks and at the bottom, and in the plain mud; where they lie with only their heads out, watching for prey. They are alſo found under great ſtones, old timber, about flood-gates, weirs, bridges, and old mills; they delight in ſtill waters, and in thoſe that are foul and muddy; though the ſmaller Eels are to be met with in all ſorts of rivers and ſoils.

Although

I might here ſpeak of many other fiſh whoſe ſhape and nature are much like the Eel, and frequent both the ſea and freſh rivers; as namely the *Lampriel*, the *Lamprey*, and the *Lamperne*: as

[r] Although the manner in which Eels, and indeed all fiſh, are generated is ſufficiently ſettled, as appears by the foregoing notes, there yet remains a queſtion undecided by Naturaliſts, and that is, Whether the Eel be a *oviparous* or a *viviparous* fiſh? *Walton* inclines to the latter opinion. The following relation from *Boetker* may go near to determine the queſtion.

" Being acquainted with an elderly woman, who had been " wife to a Miller near fifty years, and much employed in " dreſſing of Eels, I aſked her whether ſhe had ever found " any ſpawn or eggs in thoſe Eels ſhe opened? ſhe ſaid, ſhe " never had obſerved any; but that ſhe had ſometimes found " living Eels in them, about the bigneſs of a ſmall needle; " and particularly, that ſhe once took out ten or twelve, and " put them upon the table, and found them to be alive; " which was confirmed to me by the reſt of the family. The " time of the year when this happened was, as they inform- " ed me, about a fortnight or three weeks after *Michael-* " *mas*; which makes me of opinion that they go down to " the ſea, or ſalt-water, to prepare themſelves for the work " of propagating and producing their young. To this I " muſt add another obſervation of the ſame nature, that was " made by a gentleman of fortune not far from *Ludlow*, " and in the commiſſion of the peace for the county of *Sa-* " *lop*; who, going to viſit a gentleman, his friend, was " ſhewn a very fine, large Eel, that was going to be dreſſed, " about whoſe ſides and belly he obſerved a parcel of little " creeping things; which at firſt made him ſuſpect it had " been kept too long; but, upon nearer inſpection, they " were found to be perfect little Eels, or Elvers. Upon " this it was immediately opened in the ſight of ſeveral " other Gentlemen; and, in the belly of it, they found a " lump about as big as a nutmeg, conſiſting of an infinite " number of thoſe little creatures, cloſely wrapp'd up toge- " ther; which, being put into a baſon of water, ſoon ſepa- " rated, and ſwam about the baſon. This he has often told " to ſeveral Gentlemen of credit in his neighbourhood, from

as alſo of the mighty *Conger*, taken often in *Severn* about *Glouceſter*; and might alſo tell in what high eſteem many of them are for the curioſity of their taſte; but theſe are not ſo proper

" from ſome of whom I firſt received this account; but I " have lately had the ſatisfaction of having it from his own " mouth; and therefore I think this may ſerve to put the " matter out of all doubt, and may be ſufficient to prove " that Eels are of the viviparous kind."

Taking it for granted then that Eels do not ſpawn; all we have to ſay in this place is, that though, as our author tells us, they are never out of ſeaſon, yet, as ſome ſay, they are beſt in *Winter*, and worſt in *May*: and it is to be noted of Eels, that the longer they live the better they are. *Angl. ſure guide.* 164.

Of *Baits* for the Eel, the beſt are Lob-worms, Loach, Minnows, ſmall Pope or Pearch with the fins cut off, pieces of any fiſh, eſpecially Bleak, as being very lucid; with which I have taken very large ones.

As the angling for Eels is no very pleaſant amuſement, and is always attended with great trouble, and the riſque of tackle, many, while they angle for other fiſh, lay lines for the Eel, which they tie to weeds, flags, *&c.* with marks to find them by; or you may take a long packthread line, with a leaden weight at the end, and hooks looped on at a yard diſtance from each other: faſten one end to the flags, or on the ſhore, and throw the lead out, and let the line lay ſome time; and in this way you may probably take a Pike.

The river *Kennet* in *Berkſhire*, the *Stowr* in *Dorſetſhire*, *Ilk* in *Lancaſhire*, and *Ankham* in *Lincolnſhire*, are famed for producing excellent Eels; the latter to ſo great a degree, as to give riſe to the following proverbial rhyme;

Ankham *Eel, and* Witham *Pike,*
In all England *is none ſike.*

But it is ſaid there are no Eels ſuperior in goodneſs to thoſe taken in the head of the *New River* near *Iſlington*; and I myſelf have ſeen Eels caught there with a rod and line, of a very large ſize.

Eels, contrary to all other fiſh, never ſwim up, but always down the ſtream.

to

to be talked of by me, becauſe they make us Anglers, no ſport, therefore I will let them alone as the Jews do, to whom they are forbidden by their law.

And, Scholar, there is alſo a *Flounder*, a ſea-fiſh, which will wander very far into freſh rivers, and there loſe himſelf, and dwell and thrive to a ſtrange breadth, and almoſt twice ſo long; a fiſh without ſcales, and moſt excellent meat, and a fiſh that affords much ſport to the Angler, with any ſmall worm, but eſpecially a little blewiſh worm, gotten out of marſh-ground or meadows, which ſhould be well ſcowred *, but this though it be moſt excellent meat, yet it wants ſcales, and is, as I told you, therefore an abomination to the Jews.

But Scholar, there is a fiſh that they in *Lancaſhire* boaſt very much of, called a *Char*, taken there, and I think there only, in a Mere called *Winander Mere*; a Mere, ſays *Camden*, that is the largeſt in this nation, being ten miles in length, and ſome ſay as ſmooth in the bottom as if it were paved with poliſhed marble: this fiſh never exceeds fifteen or ſixteen inches in length, and 'tis ſpotted like a Trout, and has ſcarce a bone

* The taking *Flounders* with a rod and line, is a thing ſo accidental, that it is hardly worth the mention. The ſame may be ſaid of *Smelts*; which, in the *Thames*, and other great rivers, are caught with a bit of any ſmall fiſh, but chiefly of their own ſpecies. In the month of *Auguſt*, between thirty and forty years ago, ſuch vaſt quantities of Smelts came up the *Thames*, that women, and even children, became Anglers for them; and, as I have been told by perſons who well remember it, in one day, between *London-Bridge* and *Greenwich*, not fewer than two thouſand perſons were thus employ'd.

but

but on the back: but this, though I do not know whether it make the Angler ſport, yet I would have you take notice of it, becauſe it is a rarity, and of ſo high eſteem with perſons of great note.

Nor would I have you ignorant of a rare fiſh called a *Guiniad*, of which I ſhall tell you what *Camden*, and others ſpeak. The river *Dee*, which runs by *Cheſter*, ſprings in *Merionethſhire*, and as it runs toward *Cheſter* it runs through *Pemble-Mere*, which is a large water: and it is obſerved, that though the river *Dee* abounds with Salmon, and *Pemble-Mere* with the Guiniad, yet there is never any Salmon caught in the Mere, nor a Guiniad in the river. And now my next obſervation ſhall be of the Barbel.

CHAP. XIV.

Obſervations of the BARBEL, *and directions how to fiſh for him.*

PISCATOR.

THE Barbel is ſo called, ſays *Geſner*, by reaſon of his barb or wattels at his mouth, which are under his noſe or chaps. He is one of thoſe leather-mouthed fiſhes that I told you of, that does very ſeldom break his hold if he be once hooked: but he is ſo ſtrong, that he will often break both rod and line, if he proves to be a big one.

But

But the Barbel, though he be of a fine ſhape, and looks big, yet he is not accounted the beſt fiſh to eat, neither for his wholſomneſs nor his taſte: but the male is reputed much better than the female, whoſe ſpawn is very hurtful, as I will preſently declare to you.

They flock together like ſheep, and are at the worſt in *April*, about which time they ſpawn, but quickly grow to be in ſeaſon. He is able to live in the ſtrongeſt ſwifts of the water, and in ſummer they love the ſhalloweſt and ſharpeſt ſtreams; and love to lurk under weeds, and to feed on gravel againſt a riſing ground, and will root and dig in the ſands with his noſe like a hog, and there neſts himſelf: yet ſometimes he retires to deep and ſwift bridges, or flood-gates, or weires, where he will neſt himſelf amongſt piles, or in hollow places, and take ſuch hold of moſs or weeds, that be the water never ſo ſwift, it is not able to force him from the place that he contends for. This is his conſtant cuſtom in ſummer, when he and moſt living creatures ſport themſelves in the ſun, but at the approach of winter, then he forſakes the ſwift ſtreams and ſhallow waters, and by degrees retires to thoſe parts of the river that are quiet and deeper; in which places, and I think about that time, he ſpawns, and as I have formerly told you, with the help of the melter, hides his ſpawn or eggs in holes, which they both dig in the gravel, and then they mutually labour to cover it with the ſame ſand, to prevent it from being devoured by other fiſh.

There be ſuch ſtore of this fiſh in the river *Danube*, that *Rondeletius* ſays, they may in ſome places

places of it, and in ſome months of the year, be taken by thoſe that dwell near to the river, with their hands, eight or ten load at a time; he ſays, they begin to be good in *May*, and that they ceaſe to be ſo in *Auguſt*, but it is found to be otherwiſe in this nation: but thus far we agree with him, that the ſpawn of a Barbel, if it be not poiſon, as he ſays, yet that it is dangerous meat, and eſpecially in the month of *May*, which is ſo certain, that *Geſner* and *Gaſius* declare, it had an ill effect upon them, even to the endangering of their lives *.

This fiſh is of a fine caſt and handſome ſhape, with ſmall ſcales, which are placed after a moſt exact and curious manner,

BARBEL

and

* Though the *Spawn* of the Barbel is known to be of a poiſonous nature, yet it is often taken by country people medicinally; who find it, at once, a moſt powerful emetic and cathartic. And, notwithſtanding what is ſaid of the whole-

and, as I told you, may be rather ſaid not to be ill, than to be good meat; the Chub and he have, I think, both loſt part of their credit by ill cookery, they being reputed the worſt or courſeſt of freſh-water fiſh: but the Barbel affords an Angler choice ſport, being a luſty and a cunning fiſh; ſo luſty and cunning as to endanger the breaking of the Angler's line, by running his head forcibly towards any covert, or hole, or bank; and then ſtriking at the line, to break it off with his tail, as is obſerved by *Plutarch*, in his book *de induſtria animalium*, and alſo ſo cunning to nibble and ſuck off your worm cloſe to the hook, and yet avoid the letting the hook come into his mouth.

The Barbel is alſo curious for his baits, that is to ſay, that they be clean and ſweet; that is to ſay, to have your worms well ſcowred, and not kept in ſour and muſty moſs, for he is a curious feeder; but at a well-ſcowred lob-worm, he will bite as boldly as at any bait, and ſpecially, if the night or two before you fiſh for him, you ſhall bait the places where you intend to fiſh for him, with big worms cut into pieces *, and note, that none did ever over-bait the place, nor fiſh too early or too late for a Barbel. And

wholeſomeneſs of the *fleſh*, with ſome conſtitutions it produces the ſame effects as the *Spawn*. About the month of *September*, in the year 1754, a ſervant of mine, who had eaten part of a Barbel, though, as I had cautioned him, he abſtained from the Spawn, was ſeized with ſuch a violent purging and vomiting, as had like to have coſt him his life.

* Graves, which are the ſediment of tallow, melted for the making of candles, cut into pieces, are an excellent ground-bait for Barbel, Gudgeons, and many other fiſh, if thrown in the night before you angle.

the

the Barbel will bite alſo at gentles, which not being too much ſcowred, but green, are a choice bait for him; and ſo is cheeſe, which is not to be too hard, but kept a day or two in a wet linnen cloth to make it tough: with this you may alſo bait the water a day or two before you fiſh for the Barbel, and be much the likelier to catch ſtore: and if the cheeſe were laid in clarified honey a ſhort time before, as namely, an hour or two, you are ſtill the likelier to catch fiſh: ſome have directed to cut the cheeſe into thin pieces, and toaſt it, and then tie it on the hook with fine ſilk: and ſome adviſe to fiſh for the Barbel with ſheep's tallow and ſoft cheeſe beaten or worked into a paſte, and that it is choicely good in *Auguſt*, and I believe it: but doubtleſs the lob-worm well ſcowred, and the gentle not too much ſcowred, and cheeſe ordered as I have directed, are baits enough, and I think will ſerve in any month; though I ſhall commend any Angler that tries concluſions, and is induſtrious to improve the Art. And now, my honeſt Scholar, the long ſhower and my tedious diſcourſe, are both ended together: and I ſhall give you but this obſervation, that when you fiſh for a Barbel, your rod and line be both long, and of good ſtrength; for, as I told you, you will find him a heavy and a dogged fiſh to be dealt withal, yet he ſeldom or never breaks his hold if he be once ſtucken. And if you would know more of fiſhing for the Umber or Barbel, get into favour with Doctor *Sheldon* *, whoſe ſkill

* Dr. *Gilbert Sheldon*, Warden of *All-Souls* College, Chaplain to King *Charles* the firſt, and, after the reſtoration, Archbiſhop

ſkill is above others; and of that the poor that dwell about him have a comfortable experience †.

And now let's go and ſee what intereſt the Trouts will pay us for letting our Angle-rods lie ſo long, and ſo quietly, in the water for their uſe. Come, Scholar, which will you take up?

Ven. Which you think fit, Maſter.

Piſc. Why, you ſhall take up that; for I am certain by viewing the line, it has a fiſh at it. Look you, Scholar: well done. Come now, take up the other too; well, now you may tell my brother *Peter* at night, that you have caught a leaſh of Trouts this day. And now let's move toward our lodging, and drink a draught of Red-Cow's milk as we go, and give pretty *Maudlin* and her honeſt mother a brace of Trouts for their ſupper.

Ven. Maſter, I like your motion very well; and I think it is now about milking-time, and yonder they be at it.

Piſc. God ſpeed you, good woman, I thank you both for our ſongs laſt night; I and my

biſhop of *Canterbury*: he founded the Theatre at *Oxford*; died in 1677, and lies buried under a ſtately monument at *Croydon* in *Surrey*.

† Of the *haunts* of the Barbel the author has ſpoke ſufficiently.

Barbel *ſpawn* about the middle of *April*, and grow in ſeaſon about a month after.

Baits for *Barbel*, other than what *Walton* has mentioned, are, the young brood of Waſps, Hornets, and Humble Bees.

In fiſhing for him uſe a very ſtrong rod, and a ſilk line with a ſhot and a bullet, as directed for the Trout: ſome uſe a cork float; which if you do, be ſure to fiſh as cloſe to the bottom as poſſible, ſo as the Bait does not touch the ground.

com-

companion have had ſuch fortune a fiſhing this day, that we reſolve to give you and *Maudlin* a brace of Trouts for ſupper, and we will now taſte a draught of your Red-cow's milk.

Milkw. Marry, and that you ſhall with all my heart, and I will be ſtill your debtor when you come this way: if you will but ſpeak the word I will make you a good ſillabub, of new verjuice, and then you may ſit down in a hay-cock and eat it, and *Maudlin* ſhall ſit by and ſing you the good old ſong of the *Hunting in Chevy Chaſe*, or ſome other good ballad, for ſhe hath good ſtore of them; *Maudlin*, my honeſt *Maudlin*, hath a notable memory, and ſhe thinks nothing too good for you, becauſe you be ſuch honeſt men.

Ven. We thank you, and intend once in a month to call upon you again, and give you a little warning, and ſo good night: good night *Maudlin*. And now, good Maſter, let's loſe no time; but tell me ſomewhat more of fiſhing, and if you pleaſe, firſt ſomething of fiſhing for a Gudgeon.

Piſc. I will, honeſt Scholar.

CHAP. XV.

Obſervations of the GUDGEON, *the* RUFFE *and the* BLEAK, *and how to fiſh for them.*

PISCATOR.

THE Gudgeon is reputed a fiſh of excellent taſte, and to be very wholſom: he is of a fine ſhape, of a ſilver colour, and beautified with black ſpots both on his body and tail. He breeds two or three times in the year, and always in ſummer. He is commended for a fiſh of excellent nouriſhment: the *Germans* call him *Groundling*, by reaſon of his feeding on the ground: and he there feaſts himſelf in ſharp ſtreams, and on the gravel. He and the Barbel both feed ſo, and do not hunt for flies at any time, as moſt other fiſhes do: he is an excellent fiſh to enter a young Angler, being eaſie to be taken with a ſmall red-worm, on or very near to the ground. He is one of thoſe leather-mouthed fiſh that has his teeth in his throat, and will hardly be loſt off from the hook if he be once ſtucken:

GUDGEON

GUDGEON

They be uſually ſcattered up and down every river in the ſhallows, in the heat of ſummer; but in autumn, when the weeds begin to grow ſour or rot, and the weather colder, then they gather together, and get into the deeper parts of the water; and are to be fiſhed for there, with your hook always touching the ground, if you fiſh for him with a flote, or with a Cork; but many will fiſh for the Gudgeon by hand, with a running line upon the ground, without a cork, as a Trout is fiſhed for, and it is an excellent way, if you have a gentle rod and as gentle a hand *.

There is alſo another fiſh called a *Pope*, and by ſome a *Ruffe*, a fiſh that is not known to be in ſome rivers; he is much like the Pearch for

* In fiſhing for Gudgeons have a Rake, and every quarter of an hour rake the bottom of the river; and the fiſh will flock thither in ſhoals.

his ſhape, and taken to be better than the Pearch, but will not grow to be bigger than a Gudgeon; he is an excellent fiſh, no fiſh that ſwims is of a pleaſanter taſte, and he is alſo excellent to enter a young Angler, for he is a greedy biter, and they will uſually lie abundance of them together, in one reſerved place, where the water is deep, and runs quietly; and an eaſie Angler, if he has found where they lie, may catch forty or fifty, or ſometimes twice ſo many, at a ſtanding.

You muſt fiſh for him with a ſmall red-worm, and if you bait the ground with earth, it is excellent.

There is alſo a

BLEAK

or freſh-water ſprat, a fiſh that is ever in motion, and therefore called by ſome the river-ſwallow; for juſt as you ſhall obſerve the ſwallow to be moſt evenings in ſummer, ever in motion, making

making ſhort and quick turns when he flies to catch flies in the air, by which he lives, ſo does the Bleak at the top of the water. *Auſonius* would have him called Bleak from his whitiſh colour: his back is of a pleaſant ſad or ſea-water-green, his belly white and ſhining as the mountain-ſnow; and doubtleſs though he have the fortune, which vertue has in poor people, to be neglected, yet the Bleak ought to be much valued, though we want *Allamot*-ſalt, and the ſkill that the *Italians* have to turn them into Anchovies. This fiſh may be caught with a *Pater-noſter* line, that is, ſix or eight very ſmall hooks tyed along the line, one half a foot above the other: I have ſeen five caught thus at one time, and the bait has been gentles, than which none is better.

Or this fiſh may be caught with a fine ſmall artificial flie, which is to be of a very ſad, brown colour, and very ſmall, and the hook anſwerable. There is no better ſport than whipping for Bleaks in a boat, or on a bank in the ſwift water in a ſummer's evening, with a hazle top about five or ſix foot long, and a line twice the length of the rod: I have heard Sir *Henry Wotton* ſay, that there be many that in *Italy* will catch Swallows ſo, or eſpecially Martins *, this Bird-angler ſtanding on the top of a ſteeple to do it, and with a line twice ſo long as I have ſpoken of: and let me tell you, Scholar, that both Martins and Bleaks be moſt excellent meat.

And let me tell you, that I have known a Hern that did conſtantly frequent one place, caught with a hook baited with a big Minnow

* This is a common practice in *England* alſo.

or a ſmall Gudgeon. The line and hook muſt be ſtrong, and tied to ſome looſe ſtaff, ſo big as ſhe cannot flie away with it, a line not exceeding two yards.

CHAP. XVI.

Is of nothing; or, that which is nothing worth.

PISCATOR.

MY purpoſe was to give you ſome directions concerning *Roach* and *Dace*, and ſome other inferiour fiſh, which make the Angler excellent ſport, for you know there is more pleaſure in hunting the Hare than in eating her: but I will forbear at this time to ſay any more, becauſe you ſee yonder come our brother *Peter* and honeſt *Coridon*: but I will promiſe you, that as you and I fiſh and walk tomorrow towards *London*, if I have now forgotten any thing that I can then remember, I will not keep it from you.

Well met, gentlemen, this is lucky that we meet ſo juſt together at this very door. Come Hoſteſs, where are you? is ſupper ready? come firſt give us drink, and be as quick as you can, for I believe we are all very hungry. Well brother *Peter* and *Coridon*, to you both; come drink, and then tell me what luck of fiſh: we two have caught but ten Trouts, of which my ſcholar caught three; look here's eight, and a brace

we

we gave away: we have had a moſt pleaſant day for fiſhing and talking, and are returned home both weary and hungry, and now meat and reſt will be pleaſant.

Pet. And *Coridon* and I, have not had an unpleaſant day, and yet I have caught but five Trouts: for indeed we went to a good honeſt ale-houſe, and there we plaid at ſhovel-board half the day; all the time that it rained we were there, and as merry as they that fiſhed, and I am glad we are now with a dry houſe over our heads, for hark how it rains and blows. Come Hoſteſs, give us more ale, and our ſupper with what haſte you may: and when we have ſupp'd let us have your ſong, *Piſcator*, and the catch that your ſcholar promiſed us, or elſe *Coridon* will be dogged.

Piſc. Nay, I will not be worſe than my word, you ſhall not want my ſong, and I hope I ſhall be perfect in it.

Venat. And I hope the like for my catch, which I have ready too, and therefore let's go merrily to ſupper, and then have a gentle touch at ſinging and drinking; but the laſt with moderation.

Cor. Come, now for your ſong, for we have fed heartily. Come Hoſteſs, lay a few more ſticks on the fire, and now ſing when you will.

Piſc. Well then, here's to you, *Coridon*; and now for my ſong,

Oh the gallant fiſher's life,
It is the beſt of any,
'Tis full of pleaſure, void of ſtrife,
And 'tis belov'd by many;

Other

Other joys
are but toys,
only this
lawful is,
for our ſkill
breeds no ill,
but content and pleaſure.

In a morning up we riſe,
Ere Aurora's *peeping,*
Drink a cup to waſh our eyes,
Leave the ſluggard ſleeping:
Then we go
to and fro,
with our knacks
at our backs,
to ſuch ſtreams
as the Thames,
If we have the leiſure.

When we pleaſe to walk abroad
For our recreation,
In the fields is our abode,
Full of delectation,
Where in a brook
with a hook,
or a lake,
fiſh we take,
there we ſit,
for a bit,
till we fiſh entangle.

We have gentles in a horn,
We have paſte and worms too,

We

We can watch both night and morn,
Suffer rain and ſtorms too:
None do here
uſe to ſwear:
oaths do fray
fiſh away;
we ſit ſtill,
and watch our quill;
Fiſhers muſt not wrangle.

If the Sun's exceſſive heat
Make our bodies ſwelter,
To an Oſier hedge we get
For a friendly ſhelter,
Where in a dike
Pearch or Pike,
Roach or Dace,
we do chaſe,
Bleak or Gudgeon
without grudging,
we are ſtill contented.

Or we ſometimes paſs an hour
Under a green Willow,
That defends us from a ſhowre,
Making earth our pillow,
Where we may
Think and pray,
before death
ſtops our breath:
other joys
are but toys,
and to be lamented.

Jo. Chalkhill.
Venat.

Venat. Well ſung, Maſter; this day's fortune and pleaſure, and this night's company and ſong, do all make me more and more in love with Angling. Gentlemen, my Maſter left me alone for an hour this day, and I verily believe he retired himſelf from talking with me, that he might be ſo perfect in this ſong; was it not, Maſter?

Pife. Yes indeed, for it is many years ſince I learn'd it, and having forgotten a part of it, I was forced to patch it up by the help of mine own invention, who am not excellent at poetry, as any part of the ſong may teſtifie: but of that I will ſay no more, leſt you ſhould think I mean by diſcommending it to beg your commendations of it. And therefore without replications, let's hear your catch, Scholar, which I hope will be a good one, for you are both muſical, and have a good fancie to boot.

Venat. Marry, and that you ſhall, and as freely as I would have my honeſt Maſter tell me ſome more ſecrets of fiſh and fiſhing as we walk and fiſh towards *London* tomorrow. But Maſter, firſt let me tell you, that very hour which you were abſent from me, I ſate down under a Willow-tree by the water-ſide, and conſidered what you had told me of the owner of that pleaſant meadow in which you then left me; that he had a plentiful eſtate, and not a heart to think ſo; that he had at this time many law-ſuits depending, and that they both damp'd his mirth, and took up ſo much of his time and thoughts, that he himſelf had not leiſure to take the ſweet content that I, who pretended no title to them, took

in

in his fields *; for I could there ſit quietly, and looking on the water, ſee ſome fiſhes ſport themſelves in the ſilver ſtreams, others, leaping at flies of ſeveral ſhapes and colours; looking on the hills, I could behold them ſpotted with woods and groves; looking down the meadows, could ſee here a boy gathering Lillies and Lady-ſmocks, and there a girl cropping Culverkeyes and Cowſlips, all to make garlands ſuitable to this preſent month of *May*: theſe, and many other field-flowers, ſo perfumed the air, that I thought that very meadow, like that field in *Sicily*, of which *Diodorus* ſpeaks, where the per-

* There is ſo much ſine and uſeful morality included in this ſentiment, that to let it paſs would be inexcuſable in one who pretends either to illuſtrate the author's meaning, or diſplay his excellencies. The precept which he evidently meant to inculcate, is a very comfortable one, *viz.* that ſome of the greateſt pleaſures human nature is capable of, lie open and in common to the poor as well as the rich. It is not neceſſary that a man ſhould have the Fee-ſimple of all the land in proſpect, from *Windſor* terras, or *Richmond* hill, to perceive the beauty of thoſe two delightful ſituations; nor can we imagine that none but Lord *Burlington* were ever delighted in the view of his moſt elegant *Villa* at *Chiſwick*.

But that excellent moraliſt, Dr. *Francis Hutcheſon*, late of *Glaſgow*, has a paſſage to this purpoſe, which is a much better comment on this reflection than any we can give: "As "often," ſays he, "as the more important offices of virtue "allow any intervals, our time is agreeably and honourably "employ'd in Hiſtory, Natural or Civil, in Geometry, "Aſtronomy, Poetry, Painting, and Muſic, or ſuch entertainments as ingenious arts afford. And ſome of the "ſweeteſt enjoyments of this ſort *require no property*, nor need "we ever want the objects. If familiarity abates the pleaſure of the more obvious beauties of nature, their more "exquiſite inward ſtructures may give new delights, and "the ſtores of nature are inexhauſtible." See his *Syſtem of Moral Philoſophy*, Book I. Chap 7.

fumes

fumes arifing from the place, make all dogs that hunt in it to fall off, and to lofe their hotteft fcent. I fay, as I thus fate joying in my own happy condition, and pitying this poor rich man, that owned this and many other pleafant groves and meadows about me, I did thankfully remember what my Saviour faid, that the *meek poffefs the earth*; or rather, they enjoy what the other poffefs and enjoy not; for Anglers and meek, quiet-fpirited men, are free from thofe high, thofe reftlefs thoughts, which corrode the fweets of life; and they, and they only, can fay, as the poet has happily expreft it;

Hail bleft eftate of lowlinefs!
Happy enjoyments of fuch minds,
As rich in felf-contentednefs,
Can, like the reeds in rougheft winds,
By yielding make that blow but fmall,
At which proud Oaks and cedars fall.

There came alfo into my mind at that time, certain verfes in praife of a mean eftate and an humble mind; they were written by *Phineas Fletcher*, an excellent Divine, and an excellent Angler, and the author of excellent Pifcatory eclogues, in which you fhall fee the picture of this good man's mind, and I wifh mine to be like it *.

No

* It would be great injuftice to the memory of this excellent perfon, whofe name is now hardly known, to pafs him by without notice. He was the fon of *Giles Fletcher*, Doctor of Laws and Ambaffador from Queen *Elizabeth* to the Duke of *Mufcovy*; a fellow of King's College, *Cambridge*, and the author of a fine allegorical poem, entituled, *The purple Ifland*, printed at *Cambridge*, with other of his poems, in 4*to*. 1633;

No empty hopes, no courtly fears him fright,
No begging wants, his middle fortune bite,
But ſweet content exiles both miſery and ſpite.

His

1633; from whence the paſſage in the text, with a little variation is taken. The reader will not be diſpleaſed with a more entire quotation from that work; which, for its elegant paſtoral ſimplicity, I could wiſh to ſee equalled.

Let others truſt the Seas, dare Death and Hell,
Search either Inde, *vaunt of their ſcarres and wounds;*
Let others their deare breath (nay, ſilence) ſell
To fools, and (ſwoln, not rich) ſtretch out their bounds,
By ſpoiling thoſe that live, and wronging dead;
That they may drink in pearl, and couch their head
In ſoft, but ſleepleſs downe; in rich, but reſtleſſe bed.

Oh! let them in their gold quaffe dropſies down;
Oh! let them ſurfeits feaſt in ſilver bright;
While ſugar hires the taſte the brain to drown,
And bribes of ſauce corrupt falſe appetite,
His maſter's reſt, health, heart, life, ſoul to ſell.
Thus plentie, fulneſſe, ſickneſſe, ring their knell:
Death weds and beds them; firſt in grave, and then in hell.

But, ah! let me, under ſome Kentiſh *hill,*
Near rowling Medway, *'mong my ſhepherd peers,*
With fearleſſe merrie-make, and piping ſtill
Securely paſſe my few and ſlow-pac'd Years:
While yet the great Auguſtus † *of our nation* [† K. James I.]
Shuts up old Janus *in this long ceſſation,*
Strength'ning our pleaſing eaſe, and gives us ſure vacation.

There may I, maſter of a little flock,
Feed my poor lambs, and often change their fare:
My lovely mate ſhall tend my ſparing ſtock,
And nurſe my little ones with pleaſing care;
Whoſe love and look ſhall ſpeak their father plain:
Health be my feaſt, Heav'n hope, Content my gain,
So in my little houſe my leſſer heart ſhall reigne.

The

His certain life, that never can deceive him,
Is full of thouſand ſweets, and rich content;
The ſmooth-leav'd beeches in the field receive him,
With cooleſt ſhade, till noon-tide's heat be ſpent:
His life, is neither toſt in boiſt'rous ſeas,
Or the vexatious world, or loſt in ſlothful eaſe;
Pleas'd and full bleſt he lives, when he his God can pleaſe.

His bed, more ſafe than ſoft, yields quiet ſleeps,
While by his ſide his faithful ſpouſe hath place;
His little ſon, into his boſom creeps,
The lively picture of his father's face;
His humble houſe, or poor ſtate, ne're torment him;
Leſs he could like, if leſs his God had lent him,
And when he dies, green turfs do for a tomb content him.

Gentlemen, theſe were a part of the thoughts that then poſſeſt me, and I there made a converſion

The beach ſhall yield a cool ſafe canopie,
While down I ſit, and chaunt to th' ecchoing wood:
Ah! ſinging might I live, and ſinging die.
So by fair Thames, *or ſilver* Medway's *flood,*
The dying Swan, when years her temples pierce,
In muſick-ſtrains breathes out her life and verſe;
And, chaunting her own dirge, tides on her watry herſe.

Purple Iſland, *Canto* I.

The innocence of Angling, the delightful ſcenes with which it is converſant, and its aſſociated pleaſures of eaſe, retirement, and meditation, have been a motive to the introduction of a new ſpecies of Eclogue; wherein *Fiſhers* are actors, as *Shepherds* are in the Paſtoral. Mr. *Addiſon*, it is true, has cenſured *Sannazarius* for ſuch an attempt; but it is to be remembered, that his are Sea eclogues; the very idea of which is ſurely inconſiſtent with the calmneſs and tranquility of the paſtoral-life: not to ſay that *Oyſters* and

Cray-

verſion of a piece of an old catch, and added more to it, fitting them to be ſung by us Anglers:

Cray-fiſh are no very elegant or perſuaſive bribes to the favour of a miſtreſs. But the ancient writers of Paſtoral, *Bion*, *Theocritus*, *Moſchus*, and others, included under that ſpecies the manners of Herdſmen, Vinedreſſers, and others; and why thoſe of Fiſhers are to be excluded, the legiſlators of Paſtoral would do well to inform us.

Of thoſe who have attempted this kind of poetry, the abovementioned Mr. *Fletcher* is one; and in the ſame volume with the *Purple Iſland* are ſeveral poems, which he calls *Piſcatory Eclogues*, from whence the following paſſage is extracted.

Ah! would thou knew'ſt how much it better were
To bide among the ſimple Fiſher-ſwains;
No ſhrieking Owl, no Night-crow lodgeth here;
Nor is our ſimple pleaſure mix'd with pains:
Our ſports begin with the beginning year,
In calms to pull the leaping fiſh to land,
In roughs to ſing, and dance along the golden ſand.

I have a pipe, which once thou lovedſt well,
(Was never pipe that gave a better ſound)
Which oft to hear, fair Thetis *from her cell,*
Thetis, *the Queen of Seas, attended round,*
With hundred nymphs, and many powers that dwell
In th' Ocean's rocky walls, came up to heare,
And gave me gifts, which ſtill for thee lie hoarded here.

Here, with ſweet Bays, the lovely Myrtils grow,
Where th'Ocean's fair-cheek't maidens oft repair;
Here to my Pipe they dancen on a rowe,
No other Swain may come to note they're fair:
Yet my Amyntas *there with me ſhall go.*
Proteus *himſelf pipes to his flocks hereby,*
Whom thou ſhalt heare, ne'ere ſeen by any jealous eye.

Eclogue I.

And beſides Mr. *Phineas Fletcher*, a Gentleman now living, the Reverend Mr. *Moſes Browne* has obliged the world with

lers: come, Maſter, you can ſing well, you muſt ſing a part of it as it is in this paper *.

The

Piſcatory Eclogues, which I would recommend to all lovers of Poetry and Angling; and am much miſtaken if the fifth of them, entituled *Renock's Deſpair*, is not by far the beſt imitation of *Milton's Lycidas*, that has ever yet appeared.

* The reader is not to wonder at this motion of *Venator's*, nor that *Piſcator* ſo readily accepts it. At the time when *Walton* wrote, and long before, Muſic was ſo generally well underſtood, that a man who had any voice or ear, was always ſuppoſed to be able to ſing his part in a Madrigal or Song at ſight. *Peacham* requires of his Gentleman, only to be able "to ſing his part ſure, and at the firſt ſight; and, "withal, to play the ſame on the Viol or Lute." *Compl. Gent.* 100. And *Philomathes*, in *Morley's* excellent *Introduction to practical Muſic*, in Fol. 1597, thus complains; [at the banquet of maſter *Sophobulus*] "ſupper being ended, "and muſic-books, according to cuſtom, being brought to "table; the miſtreſs of the houſe preſented mee with a part, "earneſtly requeſting me to ſing. But when, after manie "excuſes, I proteſted unfainedly, that I could not, every "one began to wonder, Yea, ſome whiſpered to others, "demanding how I was brought up: ſo that, upon ſhame "of mine ignorance, I go nowe to ſeek out mine olde "friende, maſter *Gnorimus*, to make myſelf his ſcholler."

Another circumſtance, which ſhews how generally Muſic was formerly known and practiſed in *England*, occurred to me upon the ſight of an old book of Enigmas; to every one of which the author has prefixed a wooden cut of the ſubject of the Enigma: the ſolution to one of theſe, is *a Barber*, and the cut repreſents a Barber's ſhop, in which there is one perſon ſitting in a chair, under the Barber's hands, while another, who is waiting for his turn, is playing on the *Lute*; and on the ſide of the ſhop hangs another inſtrument, of the *Lute* or *Cittern*-kind. The inference I draw from hence is, that formerly a *Lute* was conſidered as a neceſſary part of the furniture of a Barber's ſhop, and anſwered the end of a News-paper, the now common amuſement of waiting cuſtomers; which it would never have done if Muſic had not, as is above obſerved, been generally known and practiſed.

And

Plate VI to front Page. 230.

THE ANGLER'S Song

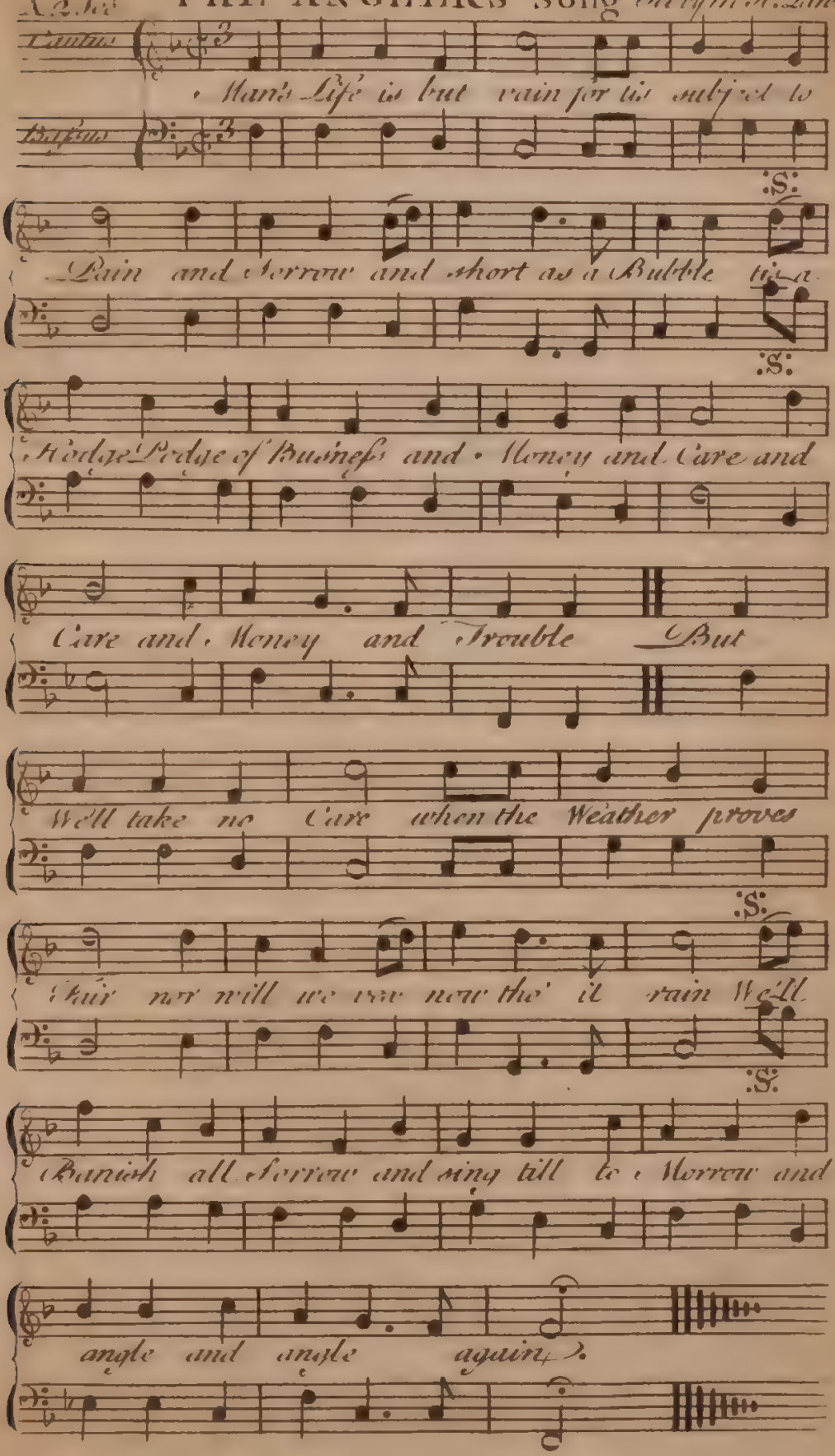


Plate VII. to Front *Page 237*.

S Wale Inv.

Pub.d According to Act of Parliam.t 1759.

Pet. I marry, Sir, this is muſick indeed, this has cheer'd my heart, and made me to remember ſix verſes in praiſe of muſick, which I will ſpeak to you inſtantly.

Muſick,

And the knowledge of this fact will enable us to explain and juſtify a paſſage in *Ben Johnſon*'s Comedy of *The Silent Woman*, which none of his annotators ſeem to have underſtood. *Moroſe*, in act III. ſcene 5. of that Play, after he has diſcovered that his ſuppoſed wife can talk, and that to the purpoſe too, cries out of *Cutberd*, "That curſed Bar-"ber!——I have married his *Cittern*, that's common to all "men." Mr. *Upton*, in his notes on that Play, and Mr. *Whaley* after him, ſuppoſe we ſhould read *Ciſtern*, *i. e.* the common Sink, the common Sewer, Ciſtern, or Receptacle: Or, Mr. *Upton*, ſays, we may read *Cittern* in a ſenſe that has no relation to a Barber's ſhop. But whether the circumſtance abovementioned does not render any ſuch conjectures needleſs, the ingenious reader will determine.

Mr. *Henry Lawes*, who compoſed the Muſic to this Song, was the *Purcel* of the age he lived in: Mr. *Waller* has honoured him with a copy of verſes inſcribed, "To Mr. *Hen-*"*ry Lawes*, who had then new ſet a Song of mine, in "the year 1635." And *Milton* has celebrated his merit in an elegant Sonnet, "to Mr. *H. Lawes*, on his Airs." *Milton* was an excellent judge and performer of Muſic, a particular which, as it has been very ſuperficially mentioned by the many writers of his life, it may not be amiſs to enlarge on here. And firſt, we are to know that his affection to this art was, in ſome ſort hereditary; for his father was not only a lover, but a compoſer of Muſic: the common melody, known by the name of *York* Pſalm-tunes, which is play'd by moſt country chimes, and half the nurſes in this kingdom ſing by way of lullaby, was of his compoſition, as appears by *Ravenſcroft*'s collection of Pſalm-tunes, and other evidences. He alſo compoſed many *Madrigals*, in four and five parts: ſome of which are to be ſeen in *The Triumphs of Oriana*, a collection of Madrigals, to five and ſix voices, compoſed by divers authors, 4*to. Lond.* 1601, and in other collections. And laſtly, it appears from the life of *Milton*, by his nephew *Phillips*, prefixed to a tranſla-

Muſick, miraculous rhet'rick, that ſpeak'ſt ſenſe
Without a tongue, excelling eloquence;
With what eaſe might thy errors be excus'd,
Wert thou as truly lov'd as th'art abus'd?
But though dull ſouls neglect, and ſome reprove thee,
I cannot hate thee, 'cauſe the Angels love thee.

Ven. And the repetition of theſe laſt verſes of muſic have call'd to my memory what Mr. *Ed.*

tion of ſome of his letters of ſtate, printed in 12*mo.* 1694, that *Milton*, the father, compoſed an *In nomine*, of forty parts; for which he was rewarded by a *Poliſh* prince, to whom he preſented it, with a gold medal and chain. And we are alſo told, by the abovementioned nephew of *Milton*, that, when he was upon his travels, he collected a cheſt or two of choice Muſic-books of the beſt maſters flouriſhing at that time in *Italy*, namely, *Luca Marenzio*, *Monteverde*, *Horatio Vecchi*, *Cifa*, the prince of *Venoſa*, and others.

It ſhould ſeem that *Lawes* and *Milton* were well acquainted; for the former compoſed the original Muſic to the Maſque of *Comus*; and, at the exhibition of that performance, at *Ludlow* caſtle, acted the part of the attendant-ſpirit. The beſt account extant of him, except that in the *Athen. Oxon*, is contained in Mr. *Fenton*'s note on the poem of Mr. *Waller*, abovementioned.

And, now I am upon this Subject, I will tell the reader a ſecret; which is, that Muſic was in its greateſt perfection in *Europe* from about the middle of the ſixteenth to the beginning of the ſeventeenth Century; when, with a variety of treble-inſtruments, a vicious taſte was introduced, and harmony received its mortal wound. In this period flouriſhed *Pruneſtini*, the Prince of *Venoſa*, and the ſeveral other authors abovementioned to have been collected by *Milton*, and, to the immortal honour of this nation, our own *Tallis* and *Byrd*; and, in the more elegant kinds of compoſition, ſuch as Madrigals, Canzonets, &c. *Willye Wealkes*, *Bennet*, *Morley*, *Bateſon*, and others, whoſe works ſhew deep ſkill, and fine invention.

Waller,

Ed. Waller, a lover of the Angle* ſays of love and muſick.

Whilſt I liſten to thy voice,
Chloris *I feel my heart decay:*
That powerful voice
Calls my fleeting ſoul away;
Oh! ſuppreſs that magick ſound,
Which deſtroys without a wound.

* As the author's concern for the honour of Angling, induced him to enumerate ſuch perſons of note as were lovers of that recreation, the reader will allow me to add Mr. *John Gay*, to the many worthy and ingenious men already named on that occaſion: any one who reads the firſt Canto of his *Georgic*, entituled *Rural Sports*, and obſerves how beautifully and accurately he treats the ſubject of Fly-fiſhing, would conclude the author a proficient: but that it was his chief amuſement, I have been aſſured, by a very intimate friend of mine, who has frequently fiſhed with him in the river *Kennet*, at *Ameſbury* in *Wilts*, the ſeat of his Grace the Duke of *Queenſbury*.

The reader will excuſe the following addition to this note, for the ſake of a beautiful deſcription of the materials uſed in Fly-making, which is quoted from the abovementioned poem.

" *To frame the little animal provide*
" *All the gay hues that wait on female pride;*
" *Let nature guide thee, ſometimes golden wire,*
" *The ſhining bellies of the fly require.*
" *The Peacock's plumes thy tackle muſt not fail,*
" *Nor the dear purchaſe of the Sable's tail.*
" *Each gaudy bird ſome ſlender tribute brings,*
" *And lends the growing inſect proper wings.*
" *Silks, of all colours, muſt their aid impart,*
" *And ev'ry Fur promote the Fiſher's art.*
" *So the gay lady, with expenſive care,*
" *Borrows the pride of Land, of Sea, of Air;*
" *Furs, Pearls, and Plumes, the glitt'ring thing diſplays,*
" *Dazzles our eyes, and eaſy hearts betrays.*"

Peace Chloris, *peace, or ſinging die,*
That together you and I
To Heaven may go:
For all we know
Of what the bleſſed do above
Is, that they ſing, and that they love,

Piſc. Well-remembred, brother *Peter*, theſe verſes came ſeaſonably, and we thank you heartily. Come, we will all join together, my Hoſt and all, and ſing my ſcholar's catch over again, and then each man drink the tother cup and to bed, and thank God we have a dry houſe over our heads.

Piſc. Well now, good night to every body.

Pet. And ſo ſay I.

Ven. And ſo ſay I.

Cor. Good night to you all, and I thank you.

Piſc. Good morrow brother *Peter*, and the like to you honeſt *Coridon*: come, my Hoſteſs ſays there is ſeven ſhillings to pay, let's each man drink a pot for his morning's draught, and lay down his two ſhillings, that ſo my Hoſteſs may not have occaſion to repent herſelf of being ſo diligent, and uſing us ſo kindly.

Pet. The motion is liked by every body, and ſo Hoſteſs, here's your money; we Anglers are all beholding to you, it will not be long e're I'll ſee you again. And now brother *Piſcator*, I wiſh you and my brother, your ſcholar, a fair day and good fortune. Come *Coridon*, this is our way.

CHAP.

CHAP. XVII.

Of ROACH *and* DACE, *and how to fiſh for them; and of* CADIS.

VENATOR.

GOOD maſter, as we go now towards *London*, be ſtill ſo courteous as to give me more inſtructions, for I have ſeveral boxes in my memory, in which I will keep them all very ſafe, there ſhall not one of them be loſt.

Piſc. Well ſcholar, that I will, and I will hide nothing from you that I can remember, and can think may help you forward towards a perfection in this art; and becauſe we have ſo much time, and I have ſaid ſo little of Roach and Dace, I will give you ſome directions concerning them.

Some ſay the Roach is ſo called, from *Rutilus*, which they ſay, ſignifies red fins: he is a fiſh of no great reputation for his dainty taſte, and his ſpawn is accounted much better than any other part of him. And you may take notice, that as the Carp is accounted the Water-Fox, for his cunning; ſo the Roach is accounted the Water-ſheep for his ſimplicity or fooliſhneſs. It is noted that the Roach and Dace recover ſtrength, and grow in ſeaſon in a fortnight after ſpawning: the Barbel and Chub in a month, the Trout in four months, and the Salmon in the like time, if he gets into the Sea, and after into freſh water.

Roaches be accounted much better in the River than in a pond, though ponds uſually breed the biggeſt. But there is a kind of baſtard ſmall Roach that breeds in ponds with a very forked tail, and of a very ſmall ſize, which ſome ſay is bred by the Bream and right Roach, and ſome ponds are ſtored with theſe beyond belief; and knowing men that know their difference, call them *Ruds*; they differ from the true Roach as much as a Herring from a Pilchard, and theſe baſtard-breed of Roach are now ſcattered in many rivers, but I think not in *Thames*, which I believe affords the largeſt and fatteſt in this nation, eſpecially below *London-bridge* *: the Roach is a leather-mouth'd fiſh, and has a kind of ſaw-like teeth in his throat. And laſtly let me tell you, the Roach makes an Angler excel-

* I know not what Roaches are caught below bridge, but above I am ſure they are very large, having caught them there of very near two pounds weight; and at *Shepperton* and *Hampton* in *Middleſex*, others have taken them much heavier.

The ſeaſon for fiſhing for Roach in the *Thames*, begins about the latter-end of *Auguſt*, and continues much longer than it is either pleaſant or ſafe to fiſh. It requires ſome ſkill to hit the time of taking them exactly; for all the Summer long they live on the weed, which they do not forſake for the deeps till it becomes putrid, and that is ſooner or later, according as the ſeaſon is wet or dry; for you are to know, that much rain haſtens the rotting of the weed: I ſay it requires ſome ſkill to hit the time; for the Fiſhermen who live in all the towns along the river, from *Chiſwick* to *Staines*, are about this time nightly upon the watch, as ſoon as the fiſh come out, to ſweep them away with a Drag-net; and our poor patient Angler is left baiting the ground, and adjuſting his tackle, to catch thoſe very fiſh which, perhaps, the night before have been carried to *Billingſgate*.

lent

lent ſport, eſpecially the great Roaches about *London*, where I think there be the beſt Roach-Anglers, and I think the beſt Trout-Anglers be in *Derby-ſhire*, for the waters there are clear to an extremity.

Next, let me tell you, you ſhall fiſh for this

ROACH

in winter with paſte or gentles, in *April* with worms or cadis; in the very hot months with little white ſnails, or with flies under water, for he ſeldom takes them at the top, though the Dace will. In many of the hot months, Roaches may alſo be caught thus: Take a *May*-flie or ant-flie, ſink him with a little lead to the bottom near to the piles or poſts of a bridge, or near to any poſts of a weire, I mean any deep place where Roaches lie quietly, and then pull your flie up very leiſurely, and uſually a Roach will follow your bait to the very top of the water and gaze on it there, and run at it and take it leſt the flie ſhould flie away from him.

I have ſeen this done at *Windſor* and *Henley-Bridge*, and great ſtore of Roach taken; and ſometimes a Dace or Chub; and in *Auguſt* you may fiſh for them with a paſte made only of the crumbs of bread, which ſhould be of pure fine manchet; and that paſte muſt be ſo tempered betwixt your hands till it be both ſoft and tough too; a very little water, and time and labour, and clean hands will make it a moſt excellent paſte: but when you fiſh with it, you muſt have a ſmall hook, a quick eye, and a nimble hand, or the bait is loſt and the fiſh too; if one may loſe that which he never had; with this paſte, you may, as I ſaid, take both the Roach and the Dace or Dare,

DACE

for they be much of a kind, in matter of feeding, cunning, goodneſs, and uſually in ſize. And therefore take this general direction for ſome other baits which may concern you to take notice of. They will bite almoſt at any flie, but eſpecially

eſpecially at Ant-flies; concerning which, take this direction, for it is very good.

Take the blackiſh Ant-flie out of the Mole-hill or Ant-hill, in which place you ſhall find them in the month of *June*, or if that be too early in the year, then doubtleſs you may find them in *July*, *Auguſt*, and moſt of *September*; gather them alive with both their wings, and then put them into a glaſs that will hold a quart or a pottle; but firſt put into the glaſs a handful or more of the moiſt earth, out of which you gather them, and as much of the roots of the graſs of the ſaid hillock, and then put in the flies gently, that they loſe not their wings; lay a clod of earth over it, and then ſo many as are put into the glaſs without bruiſing, will live there a month or more, and be always in a readineſs for you to fiſh with; but if you would have them keep longer, then get any great earthen pot, or barrel of three or four gallons, which is better, then waſh your barrel with water and honey; and having put into it a quantity of earth and graſs-roots, then put in your flies, and cover it, and they will live a quarter of a year; theſe in any ſtream and clear water, are a deadly bait for Roach or Dace, or for a Chub; and your rule is, to fiſh not leſs than a handful from the bottom.

I ſhall next tell you a winter-bait for a Roach, a Dace or Chub, and it is choicely good. About *All-hallontide*, and ſo till froſt comes, when you ſee men ploughing up heath-ground, or ſandy ground, or green-ſwards, then follow the plough, and you ſhall find a white worm as big as two maggots, and it hath a red head, you may obſerve in what ground moſt are, for there the crows

crows will be very watchful and follow the plough very close; it is all soft, and full of whitish guts: a worm that is in *Norfolk*, and some other counties called a *Grub*, and is bred of the spawn or eggs of a beetle, which she leaves in holes that she digs in the ground under cow or horse-dung, and there rests all winter, and in *March* or *April* comes to be first a red, and then a black beetle: gather a thousand or two of these and put them with a peck or two of their own earth into some tub or firkin, and cover and keep them so warm, that the frost or cold air, or winds kill them not; these you may keep all winter, and kill fish with them at any time: and if you put some of them into a little earth and honey a day before you use them, you will find them an excellent bait for Bream, Carp, or indeed for almost any fish.

And after this manner you may also keep gentles all winter, which are a good bait then, and much the better for being lively and tough: or you may breed and keep gentles thus: take a piece of beast's liver, and with a cross stick, hang it in some corner over a pot or barrel, half full of dry clay, and as the gentles grow big they will fall into the barrel and scowre themselves, and be always ready for use whensoever you incline to fish; and these gentles may be thus created till after *Michaelmas*. But if you desire to keep gentles to fish with all the year, then get a dead cat or a kite, and let it be fly-blown, and when the gentles begin to be alive and to stir, then bury it and them in soft, moist earth, but as free from frost as you can, and these you may dig up at any time when you intend to use them; these will

will laſt till *March*, and about that time turn to be flies.

But if you be nice to foul your fingers which good Anglers ſeldom are, then take this bait: get a handful of well-made malt, and put it into a diſh of water, and then waſh and rub it betwixt your hands till you make it clean, and as free from huſks as you can; then put that water from it, and put a ſmall quantity of freſh water to it, and ſet it in ſomething that is fit for that purpoſe over the fire, where it is not to boil apace, but leaſurely and very ſoftly, until it become ſomewhat ſoft, which you may try by feeling it betwixt your finger and thumb, and when it is ſoft, then put your water from it, and then take a ſharp knife, and turning the ſprout end of the corn upward, with the point of your knife take the back part of the huſk off from it, and yet leaving a kind of inward huſk on the corn, or elſe it is mar'd, and then cut off that ſprouted end, I mean a little of it, that the white may appear, and ſo pull off the huſk on the cloven ſide, as I directed you, and then cutting off a very little of the other end, that ſo your hook may enter; and if your hook be ſmall and good, you will find this to be a very choice bait either for winter or ſummer, you ſometimes caſting a little of it into the place where your float ſwims.

And to take the Roach and Dace, a good bait is the young brood of waſps or bees, if you dip their heads in blood; eſpecially good for Bream, if they be baked or hardned in their huſks in an oven, after the bread is taken out of it; or hardned on a fire-ſhovel; and ſo alſo is the thick blood of

of Sheep, being half dried on a trencher, that so you may cut it into such pieces as may best sit the size of your hook, and a little salt keeps it from growing black, and makes it not the worse but better: this is taken to be a choice bait if rightly ordered.

There be several oils of a strong smell that I have been told of, and to be excellent to tempt fish to bite, of which I could say much; but I remember I once carried a small bottle from Sir *George Hastings* to Sir *Henry Wotton*, they were both chymical men, as a great present; it was sent, and receiv'd, and us'd with great confidence; and yet upon enquiry I found it did not answer the expectation of Sir *Henry*, which, with the help of this and other circumstances, makes me have little belief in such things as many men talk of: not but that I think fishes both smell and hear, as I have exprest in my former discourse; but there is a mysterious knack, which, though it be much easier than the philosopher's stone, yet is not attainable by common capacities, or else lies locked up in the brain or breast of some chymical man, that like the *Rosi-crucians* * will not yet reveal it. But let me neverthe-

less

* A sect of frantic Enthusiasts, who sprung up in *Germany* about the beginning of the fourteenth Century; they professed to teach the art of making Gold, and boasted of a secret, in their power, to protract the period of human life, and even to restore youth. Their founder having been to the *Holy Land*, pretended to have learned all this from the *Arabs*. They propagated their senseless philosophy by tradition, and revealed their mysteries only to a chosen few; and to this practice the author alludes. *Lemery*, in his book of *Chemistry*, has thus defined their art: "*Ars sine arte cujus principium mentiri*,

leſs tell you, that Camphire put with moſs into your worm-bag with your worms, makes them, if many Anglers be not very much miſtaken, a tempting bait, and the Angler more fortunate. But I ſtepped by chance into this diſcourſe of oiles and fiſhes' ſmelling, and though there might be more ſaid, both of it and of baits for Roach and Dace, and other float-fiſh, yet I will forbear it at this time *, and tell you in the next place how

" *tiri, medium laborare et finis mendicare.*" An art without art, whoſe beginning is lying, whoſe middle is labour, and whoſe end is beggary.

* Roach delight in gravelly or ſandy bottoms: their *Haunts*, eſpecially as Winter approaches, are clear, deep, and ſtill waters; at other times they lie in and near weeds, and under the ſhade of boughs.

They *ſpawn* about the latter end of *May*, when they are ſcabby and unwholeſome, but they are again in order in about three weeks: the largeſt are taken after *Michaelmas*; and their prime Seaſon is in *February* or *March*.

The *Baits* for Roach, not already mentioned, are Cad-bait and Oak-worms for the Spring; in *May*, Ant's Eggs, and Paſte made of the crums of a new roll, both white and tinged with red, which is done by putting vermilion into the water wherewith you moiſten it; this Paſte will do for the Winter alſo.

The largeſt Roach in this Kingdom are taken in the *Thames*, where many have been caught of two pounds and a half weight; but Roach of any ſize are hardly to be come at without a boat.

The *Haunts* of Dace are gravelly, ſandy, and clayey bottoms; deep holes that are ſhaded; water-lilly leaves, and under the foam cauſed by an eddy: in hot weather they are to be found on the ſhallows, and are then beſt taken with an artificial fly, graſshoppers, or gentles, as hereafter directed.

Dace *ſpawn* about the latter end of *March*, and are in ſeaſon about three weeks after; they are not very good till about *Michaelmas*, and are beſt in *February*.

Baits

how you are to prepare your tackling: concerning which I will for ſport-ſake give you an old Rhime

Baits for Dace, other than thoſe mentioned by *Walton*, are the oak-worm, red-worm, brandling, gilt-tail, and indeed any worm bred on trees or buſhes that is not too big for his mouth: almoſt all kinds of flies and caterpillars.

Tho' Dace are often caught with a float, as Roach; yet they are not ſo properly float-fiſh; for they are to be taken with an artificial Gnat, or Ant-fly, or indeed, almoſt any other ſmall fly in its ſeaſon; but in the *Thames*, above *Richmond*, the largeſt are caught with a natural green or dun Graſshopper, and ſometimes with Gentles; with both which you are to fiſh as with an artificial fly; they are not to be come at till about *September*, when the weeds begin to rot; but when you have found where they lie, which in a warm day is generally on the ſhallows, 'tis incredible what havock you may make: pinch off the firſt joint of the Graſshopper's legs, put the point of the hook in at the head, and bring it out at the tail; and in this way of fiſhing you will catch Chub, eſpecially if you throw under the boughs.

But this can be done only in a boat, for the management whereof be provided with a ſtaff, and a heavy ſtone faſtened to a ſtrong rope of four or five yards in length; faſten the rope to the head of the boat, which, whether it be a punt or a wherry, is equally fit for this purpoſe, and ſo drive down with the ſtream: when you come to a ſhallow, or other place where the fiſh are likely to lie, drop the ſtone, and, ſtanding in the ſtern, throw right down the ſtream, and a little to the right and left: after trying about a quarter of an hour in a place, with the ſtaff puſh the boat about five yards down, and ſo throw again. Uſe a common fly-line, about ten yards long, with a ſtrong ſingle hair next the hook.

It is true, there is leſs certainty of catching in this way than with a float and ground-bait; for which reaſon I would recommend it only to thoſe who live near the banks of that delightful river, between *Windſor* and *Iſleworth*, who have or can command a boat for the purpoſe, and can take advantage of a ſtill, warm, gloomy day; and to ſuch it will afford much more diverſion than the ordinary inartificial method of fiſhing in the deeps for Roach and Dace.

In

Rhime out of an old Fiſh-book which will prove a part, and but a part, of what you are to provide.

My

In fiſhing at bottom for Roach and Dace, uſe for ground-bait, bread ſoaked about an hour in water, and an equal quantity of bran; knead them to a tough conſiſtence, and make them up into balls, with a ſmall pebble in the middle, and throw theſe balls in where you fiſh, but be ſure to throw them up the ſtream; for otherwiſe they will draw the fiſh beyond the reach of your line.

Fiſh for Roach within ſix, and for Dace within three inches of the bottom.

Having enumerated the baits proper for every kind of fiſh in their reſpective places, it may not be amiſs here to mention one, which many authors ſpeak of as excellent for almoſt all fiſh, and that is the *ſpawn* of *Salmon*, or *large Trout*. *Barker*, who ſeems to have been the firſt that diſcovered it, recommends it to his patron in the following terms:

" *Noble Lord*,

" I have found an *experience* of late, which *you may* " *angle with*, and take great ſtore of this kind of fiſh. " Firſt, It is *the beſt bait for a Trout that I have ſeen in all* " *my time*; and will take great ſtore, and not faile, if they " be there. Secondly, It is a ſpecial bait for Dace or Dare, " good for Chub or Bottlin, or Grayling. The bait is the " roe of a Salmon or Trout: if it be a large Trout that " the ſpawnes be any thing great, you muſt angle for the " Trout with this bait as you angle with the brandlin, " taking a pair of Ciſers, and cut ſo much as a large Haſel-" nut and bait your hook, *ſo fall to your ſport; there is no* " *doubt of pleaſure*. If I had known it but twenty years " agoe, I would have gained a hundred pounds onely with " that bait. I am bound in duty to divulge it to your Ho-" nour, and not to carry it to my grave with me. I do de-" ſire that *men of quality ſhould have it that delight in that* " *pleaſure*. The greedy Angler will murmur at me, but for " that I care not.

" For the angling for the Scale-fiſh, they muſt angle ei-" ther with cork or quill, plumming their ground, and with

My Rod and my line, my ſloat and my lead,
My Hook and my plummet, my whetſtone and knife,
My baſket, my baits both living and dead,
My net and my meat, for that is the chief:
Then I muſt have thred, and hairs green and ſmall,
With mine Angling purſe, and ſo you have all.

But

" feeding with the ſame bait, taking them aſunder, that they
" may ſpread abroad, that the fiſh may feed and come to
" your place: *there is no doubt of pleaſure*, angling with fine
" tackles; as ſingle haire lines, at leaſt five or ſix length
" long, a ſmall hook, with two or three ſpawnes. The
" bait will hold one week; if you keep it on any longer,
" you muſt hang it up to dry a little: *when you go to your*
" *pleaſure again*, put the bait in a little water, it will come
" in kind again."

Others, to preſerve Salmon-ſpawn, ſprinkle it with a little Salt, and lay it upon wool in a pot, one layr of Wool, and another of Spawn. It is ſaid to be a lovely Bait for the Winter or Spring, eſpecially where Salmon are uſed to ſpawn, for thither the fiſh gather, and there expect it.

Angl. Vade Mecum, 53.

To know, at any time, what Bait fiſh are apt to take, open the belly of the firſt you catch, and take out his ſtomach very tenderly; open it with a ſharp Penknife, and you will diſcover what he then feeds on.

Venables, 91.

The people who live in the fiſhing-towns along the banks of the *Thames*, have a method of dreſſing large Roach and Dace, which, as 'tis ſaid, renders them a very pleaſant and ſavoury food; it is as follows: Without ſcaling the fiſh, lay him on a gridiron, over a ſlow fire, and ſtrew on him a little flour; when he begins to grow brown, make a ſlit, not more than ſkin deep, in his back, from head to tail, and lay him on again: when he is broiled enough, the ſkin, ſcales and all, will peel off, and leave the fleſh, which will have become very firm, perfectly clean; then open the belly, and take out the inſide, and uſe Anchovy and Butter for ſauce.

Having

But you muſt have all theſe tackling, and twice ſo many more *, with which if you mean to

Having promiſed the reader Mr. *Barker*'s *Recipe* for anointing Boots and Shoes, and having no further occaſion to make uſe of his authority, it is here given in his own words:

" Take a pint of Linſeed-oil, with half a pound of Mut-
" ton-ſuet, ſix or eight ounces of Bees-wax, and half a pen-
" nyworth of Roſin; boyle all this in a pipkin together;
" ſo let it coole 'till it be milk-warm; then take a little
" hair-bruſh, and lay it on your new Boots; but it's beſt
" that this ſtuff be laid on before the Boot-maker makes the
" Boots; then bruſh them once over after they come from
" him: as for old Boots, you muſt lay it on when your
" Boots be dry."

* If you go any great diſtance from home, you will find it neceſſary to carry with you many more things than are here enumerated, moſt of which may be very well contained in a wicker panier of about twelve inches wide, and eight high, of the form, and put into a hawking-bag, as in Fig. 10. Plate IX. the following is a liſt of the moſt material: A Rod with a ſpare top; Lines coiled up, and neatly laid in round flat boxes; ſpare Links, ſingle Hairs, waxed Thread, and Silk; Plummets of various ſizes, of the form of Fig. 11. Plate IX. Floats of all kinds, and ſpare Caps; Worm-bags, and a Gentle box, Fig. 12. Plate IX. Hooks of all ſizes, ſome whipped to ſingle hairs; Shot, Shoemaker's-wax, in a very ſmall gallipot covered with a bit of leather; a Clearing-ring, tied to about ſix yards of ſtrong cord, of the ſhape of Fig. 13. Plate IX. the uſe of this is to diſengage your hook when it has caught a weed, *&c.* in which caſe take off the but of your rod and ſlip the ring over the remaining joints, and, holding it by the cord, let it gently fall; a Landing-net, the hoop whereof muſt be of iron, and made with joints to fold, in the ſhape of Fig. 14. Plate IX. and a Socket, to hold a ſtaff, Fig. 15. Take with you alſo ſuch Baits as you intend to uſe. That you may keep your fiſh alive, be provided with a ſmall Hoop-net, to draw cloſe at the top, and never be without a ſharp Knife and a pair of

I have heard that the tackling hath been prized at fifty pounds in the Inventory of an Angler.

to be a Fiſher, you muſt ſtore yourſelf; and to that purpoſe I will go with you either to Mr. *Margrave*, who dwells amongſt the Bookſellers in St. *Paul*'s Church-Yard, or to Mr. *John Stubs*, near to the Swan in *Golden-lane*; they be both

Sciſſars; and, if you mean to uſe the artificial fly, have your Fly-book always with you.

And, for the more convenient keeping and carriage of Lines, Links, ſingle Hairs, *&c.* take a piece of Parchment or Vellum, ſeven inches by ten; on the longer ſides ſet off four inches, and then fold it croſs-wiſe, ſo as to leave a flap of two inches, of which hereafter; then take eight or ten pieces of Parchment, of ſeven inches by four, put them into the Parchment or Vellum, ſo folded, and ſew up the ends; then cut the flap rounding, and fold it down like a pocket-book: laſtly, you may, if you pleaſe, bind the ends and round the flap with red tape.

Into this Caſe put Lines, coiled up, ſpare Links, ſingle Hairs, Hooks ready whipped and looped.

And having ſeveral of theſe Caſes, you may fill them with Lines, *&c.* proper for every kind of fiſhing; always remembring, to put into each of them a Gorger, or ſmall piece of Cane, of five inches long, and a quarter of an inch wide, with a notch at each end; with this, when a fiſh has gorged your hook, you may, by putting it down his throat till you feel the hook, and holding the line tight while you preſs it down, eaſily diſengage it.

And if you ſhould chance to break your top, or any other part of your Rod, take the following directions for mending it: Cut the two broken ends with a long ſlope, ſo that they fit neatly together; then ſpread ſome wax very thin on each ſlope, and, with waxed thread or ſilk, according as the ſize of the broken part requires, bind them very neatly together: to faſten off, lay the fore-finger of your left hand over the binding, and, with your right, make four turns of the thread over it; then paſs the end of your thread between

the

both honeſt men, and will fit an Angler with what Tackling he lacks * :

Venat.

the under-ſide of your finger and the rod, and draw your finger away ; laſtly, with the fore-finger and thumb of your right-hand, take hold of the firſt of the turns, and gathering as much of it as you can, bind on till the three remaining turns are wound off, and then take hold of the end, which you had before put through, and draw cloſe. See the work Plate X. Fig 1, 2.

For whipping on a Hook take the following directions : Place the Hook betwixt the fore-finger and thumb of your left-hand, and, with your right, give the waxed ſilk three or four turns round the ſhank of the Hook : then lay the end of the hair on the inſide of the ſhank, and, with your right-hand, whip down, as in Fig. 3. Plate X. when you are within about four turns of the bent of the Hook, take the ſhank between the fore-finger and thumb of your left-hand, and place the end of the ſilk cloſe by it, holding them both tight, and leaving the end to hang down ; then draw the other part of the ſilk into a large loop, and, with your right-hand turning backwards, as in Fig. 4. Plate X. continue the whipping for four turns, and draw the end of the ſilk, which has all this while hung down under the root of your left-thumb, cloſe, and twitch it off.

To tye a Water-knot, lay the end of one of your hairs about five inches or leſs, over that of the other, and through the loop which you would make to tye them in the common way, paſs the long and the ſhort end of the hairs, which will lie to the right of the loop, twice, and wetting the Knot with your tongue, draw it cloſe, and cut off the ſpare hair. See Fig. 5 Plate X.

* In ſome former editions of this book the author has, in this place, mentioned *Charles Kirby* as a maker of excellent Hooks ; of whom take the following account : He was famous for the neatneſs and form of his Hooks, when being introduced to Prince *Rupert*, whoſe name frequently occurs in the hiſtory of King *Charles* the Firſt's reign, the Prince communicated to him a method of tempering them, which has been continued in the family to this time ; there being a lineal deſcendant of the abovenamed *Charles Kirby* now li-

Venat. Then, good Maſter, let it be at ——— for he is neareſt to my dwelling, and I pray let's meet there the ninth of *May* next, about two of the clock, and I'll want nothing that a fiſher ſhould be furniſhed with.

Piſc. Well, and I'll not fail you, God willing, at the time and place appointed.

Venat. I thank you, good Maſter, and I will not fail you: and, good Maſter, tell me what baits more you remember, for it will not now be long ere we ſhall be at *Tottenham-High-Croſs*, and when we come thither I will make you ſome requital of your pains, by repeating as choice a copy of verſes, as any we have heard ſince we met together; and that is a proud word, for we have heard very good ones.

Piſc. Well, Scholar, and I ſhall be then right glad to hear them; and I will as we walk, tell you whatſoever comes in my mind, that I think may be worth your hearing. You may make another choice bait thus; take a handful or two of the beſt and biggeſt Wheat you can get, boil it in a little milk, like as Frumity is boiled, boil it ſo till it be ſoft, and then fry it very leiſurely with honey and a little beaten ſaffron diſſolved in milk, and you will find this a choice bait, and good I think for any fiſh, eſpecially for Roach, Dace, Chub, or Grayling: I know not but that

ving, in *Crowder's-well-Alley* near *Aldersgate-Street*; whoſe Hooks, for their ſhape and temper, exceed all others. This ſtory is the more likely to be true, as 'tis well known that the *German* Nobility, in the laſt Century, were much addicted to *Chemiſtry*: and that to this Prince *Rupert* the world is indebted for the invention of ſcraping in *Mezzotinto*. See a head of his ſcraping in *Evelyn's Sculptura*.

it

it may be as good for a river-carp, and eſpecially if the ground be a little baited with it.

And you may alſo note, that the ſpawn of moſt fiſh is a very tempting bait, being a little hardned on a warm tile, and cut into fit pieces *. Nay, mulberries and thoſe black-berries, which grow upon briers, be good baits for Chubs or Carps, with theſe many have been taken in ponds, and in ſome rivers where ſuch trees have grown near the water, and the fruit cuſtomarily dropt into it; and there be a hundred other baits more than can be well nam'd, which, by conſtant baiting the water, will become a tempting bait for any fiſh in it.

You are alſo to know, that there be divers kinds of *Cadis*, or *Caſe-worms*, that are to be found in this Nation in ſeveral diſtinct counties, and in ſeveral little brooks that relate to bigger rivers; as namely one Cadis called a *Piper*, whoſe huſk or caſe is a piece of reed about an inch long or longer, and as big about as the compaſs of a two-pence; theſe worms being kept three or four days in a woollen bag with ſand at the bottom of it, and the bag wet once a day, will in three or four days turn to be yellow, and theſe be a choice bait for the Chub or Chavender, or indeed for any great fiſh, for it is a large bait.

There is alſo a leſſer Cadis-worm, called a *Cock-ſpur*, being in faſhion like the ſpur of a cock, ſharp at one end, and the caſe or houſe in which this dwells is made of ſmall huſks, and gravel, and ſlime, moſt curiouſly made of theſe, even ſo as to be wondred at, but not to be made by man no more than a King-fiſher's neſt can,

* See the Note in Page 251.

which is made of little fiſhes' bones, and have ſuch a geometrical inter-weaving and connexion, as the like is not to be done by the art of man: this kind of Cadis is a choice bait for any float-fiſh, it is much leſs than the Piper-Cadis, and to be ſo ordered; and theſe may be ſo preſerved ten, fifteen, or twenty days, or it may be longer*.

There is alſo another Cadis, called by ſome a *Straw-worm*, and by ſome a *Ruff-coat*, whoſe houſe or caſe is made of little pieces of bents, and ruſhes, and ſtraws, and water-weeds, and I know not what, which are ſo knit together with condenſed ſlime, that they ſtick about her huſk or caſe, not unlike the briſtles of a Hedg-hog; theſe three Cadis's are commonly taken in the beginning of ſummer, and are good indeed to take any kind of fiſh with float or otherwiſe. I might tell you of many more, which as theſe do early, ſo thoſe have their time alſo of turning to be flies later in ſummer; but I might loſe myſelf, and tire you by ſuch a diſcourſe, I ſhall therefore but remember you, that to know theſe and their ſeveral kinds, and to what flies every particular Cadis turns, and then how to uſe them,

* To preſerve Cadis, Graſshoppers, Caterpillars, Oak-worms, or natural Flies, the following is an excellent method: Cut a round bough of fine green-barked Withy, about the thickneſs of half one's arm, and taking off the bark about a foot in length, turn both ends together, into the form of an hoop, and faſten them with a pack-needle and thread; then ſtop up the bottom with a Bung-cork; into this put your Baits, tie it over with a Colewort-leaf, and, with a red-hot wire, bore the Bark full of holes, ſee Plate X. Fig. 6. and lay it in the graſs every night; in this manner Cadis may be kept till they turn to Flies. To Graſshoppers you may put Graſs,

firſt

firſt as they be Cadis, and after as they be flies, is an art, and an art that every one that profeſſes to be an Angler has not leiſure to ſearch after, and if he had is not capable of learning*.

I'll

* The ſeveral ſorts of *Phryganea*, or Cadews, in their *Nympha*, or Maggot ſtate, thus houſe themſelves; one ſort in ſtraws, called from thence *Straw-worms*; others in two or more ſticks, laid parallel to one another, creeping at the bottom of brooks; others, with a ſmall bundle of pieces of ruſhes, duck-weed, ſticks, &c. glued together, wherewith they float on the top, and can row themſelves therein about the waters, with the help of their feet: both theſe are called *Cod-bait*. Divers ſorts there are, which the reader may ſee a ſummary of, from Mr. *Willughby*, in *Raii Method. Inſect.* p. 12. together with a good, though very brief, deſcription of the Papilionaceous Fly, that comes from the *Cod-bait* Cadew. It is a notable architectonic faculty, which all the variety of theſe animals have, to gather ſuch bodies as are fitteſt for their purpoſe, and then to glue them together; ſome to be heavier than water, that the animal may remain at bottom, where its food is; (for which purpoſe they uſe ſtones, together with ſticks, ruſhes, &c.) and ſome to be lighter than water, to float on the top, and gather its food from thence. Theſe little houſes look coarſe, and ſhew no great artifice outwardly; but are well tunnelled, and made within with a hard tough paſte, into which the hinder part of the Maggot is ſo fixed that it can draw its cell after it any where, without danger of leaving it behind, as alſo thruſt its body to reach what it wanteth, or withdraw it into its cell to guard it againſt harms. *Phyſ. Theol.* 234.

Thus much of Cadis in general, as an illuſtration of what our author has ſaid on that ſubject; but to be more particular.

That which *Walton* calls the *Piper-Cadis*, I have never ſeen; but a very learned and ingenious friend of mine, who has, for fifty years paſt, been an Angler, and a curious obſerver of aquatic productions, has furniſhed me with an account of that inſect; which I ſhall give the reader in nearly his own words:

" The

I'll tell you, Scholar, ſeveral countries have ſeveral kinds of Cadis's, that indeed differ as much as dogs do: that is to ſay, as much as a very Cur and a Greyhound do. Theſe be uſually bred in the very little rills or ditches that run

" The *Piper-Cadis* I take to be the largeſt of the tribe, " and that it takes its name not from any ſound, but figure. " I never met with it but in rivers running upon beds of " limeſtone, or large pebbles; they are common in *Nor-* " *thern* and *Welch* ſtreams. The Cadew itſelf is about an " inch long, and in ſome above. The caſe is ſtrait and " rough, the outward ſurface covered with gravel or ſand; " the *fiſtula*, or pipe, in which it is contained, ſeems to be " a ſmall ſtick, of which the pith was quite decay'd, before " the inſect, in its ſtate immediately ſucceeding the egg, " lodged itſelf. Advanced to an *Aurelia*, which is general- " ly in *April*, or the beginning of *May*, it leaves its caſe " and laſt covering, a ſort of thin ſkin, reſembling a fiſh's " bladder (and this is likewiſe the method of the whole *ge-* " *nus*, as far as I could ever obſerve) and immediately paddles " upon the top of the water with its many legs. It ſeldom " flies, tho' it has four wings; and of theſe wings it is to be " obſerved, that in the infant-ſtate of the inſect, viz. for a " week or longer, they are ſhorter than the body, but after- " wards they grow to be full as long or longer: this is uſu- " ally called by ſportſmen the *Stone-fly*; in *Wales* they name " it the *Water-cricket*; the ſize and colour being like that " inſect."

As to the *Cock-ſpur*, *Roſelker* expreſly ſays, in his *Art of Angling*, p. 70. that it produces the *May-fly*, or *Yellow Cadew*; which I have ever underſtood to be the *Green Drake*.

That which *Walton* calls the *Stone-caterpillar*, or *Rat-tail*; though, by the way, he certainly errs in making theſe terms ſynonimous, as will hereafter be made to appear, and which is deſcribed in *Ray's Methodus Inſectorum*, p. 12. is, I take it, the moſt common of any, and is found in the river *Colne*, near *Uxbridge*; the *New River*, near *London*; the *Wandle*, which runs through *Carshalton* in *Surrey*; and in moſt other rivers. Two of this ſpecies of inſects, drawn from nature, are given Plate XI. Fig. 4 and 5; and Fig. 6. is the appearance of the

Cadis

run into bigger rivers, and I think a more proper bait for thoſe very rivers, than any other. I know not how or of what this Cadis receives life, or what coloured flie it turns to; but doubtleſs, they are the death of many Trouts, and this is one killing way.

Take

Cadis when pulled out of its caſe. As to the *Straw-worm*, I am aſſured, by my friend abovementioned, that it produces many and various flies, namely, that which is called about *London* the *Withy*-fly, Aſh-coloured Duns, of ſeveral ſhapes and dimenſions, as alſo light and dark Browns; all of them affording great diverſion in *Northern* ſtreams.

It now remains to ſpeak of the *Ruff-coat*, which ſeems to anſwer ſo nearly to the deſcription which *Walton* has given of the *Cock-ſpur*, *viz.* that "the caſe or houſe in which it "dwells, is made of ſmall huſks, and gravel and ſlime, moſt "curiouſly;" that there is no accounting for his making the term ſynonimous with that of the Straw-worm, which it does not in the leaſt reſemble: and yet that the Ruff-coat and the Cock-ſpur produce different flies, notwithſtanding their ſeeming reſemblance, muſt be taken for granted, unleſs we will reject *Bowlker*'s authority, when he ſays the Cock-ſpur produces the *May*-fly, or Yellow Cadew; which, I own, I ſee no reaſon to do.

But, that I may not miſlead the reader, I muſt inform him, that I take the Ruff-coat to be a ſpecies of Cadis incloſed in a huſk about an inch long, ſurrounded by bits of ſtone, flints, bits of tile, *&c.* very near equal in their ſizes, and moſt curiouſly compacted together like Moſaic.

In the month of *May* 1759, I took one of the inſects laſt above deſcribed, which had been found in the river *Wandle* in *Surrey*, and put it into a ſmall box, with ſand at the bottom, and wetted it five or ſix times a day, for two days; at the end whereof, to my great amazement, it produced a lovely large fly, nearly of the ſhape of, but leſs than a common white Butterfly, with two pair of cloak wings, and of a light Cinnamon-colour: the figure of the huſk, and alſo of the fly, in two poſitions, is given in Plate XI. Fig. 1, 2, 3. This fly, upon inquiry, I find is called, in the *North*, the *Large Light Brown*; in *Ireland*, and ſome other places, it

has

Take one, or more if need be, of these large yellow Cadis, pull off his head, and with it pull out his black gut, put the body, as little bruised as is possible, on a very little hook, armed on with a red hair, which will shew like the Cadis-head, and a very little thin lead, so put upon the shank of the hook that it may sink presently; throw this bait thus ordered, which will look very yellow, into any great still hole where a Trout is, and he will presently venture his life for it, 'tis not to be doubted, if you be not espyed; and that the bait first touch the water, before the line; and this will do best in the deepest stilleſt water.

Next let me tell you, I have been much pleased to walk quietly by a brook with a little stick

has the name of the *Flame-coloured Brown*: and the method of making it is given in the additional list of Flies for *September*; where, from its smell, the reader will find it called *The Large Fætid Light Brown.*

And there are many other other kinds of these wonderful creatures, as may be seen in *Monſ. De Reaumur's Memoires pour ſervir a l'Hiſtoire des Inſectes, Tome* III. from which, for the reader's greater satisfaction, the figures, 7, 8, 9, 10. in Plate XI. are accurately delineated.

It is greatly to be wished that none had undertaken to write on this subject, of aquatic insects, but men conversant in the study of Natural History; as *Ray*, *Derham*, *Swammerdam*, *Reaumur*, and others were, the consequence of which would have been that these creatures would have had names assigned them which would at once have characterized them, and kept the several species distinct from each other; whereas the several illiberal terms of *Cadis*, *Caddew*, *Cod-bait*, *Cad bait*, *Case-worm*, and *Cod-worm*, each of which, in some places, means two or three, and in others, all the different sorts of these creatures yet known, has been productive of inextricable confusion, and will, I fear, oblige us to consider their history as among the *Desiderata* of this curious art.

in

in my hand, with which I might eaſily take theſe and conſider the curioſity of their compoſure; and if you ſhall ever like to do ſo, then note, that your ſtick muſt be a little haſel or willow, cleft, or have a nick at one end of it, by which means you may with eaſe take many of them in that nick out of the water, before you have any occaſion to uſe them. Theſe, my honeſt Scholar, are ſome obſervations told to you as they now come ſuddenly into my memory, of which you may make ſome uſe: but for the practical part, it is that that makes an Angler: it is diligence, and obſervation, and practice, and an ambition to be the beſt in the art that muſt do it*. I will

* The Author has now done deſcribing the ſeveral Kinds of fiſh, excepting the few little ones that follow, with the different methods of taking them; but has ſaid little or nothing of *Float-fiſhing*: it may therefore not be amiſs here to lay down ſome rules about it.

Let the rod be light and ſtiff, and withall ſo ſmart in the ſpring, as to ſtrike at the tip of the whalebone: from fourteen to fifteen Foot is a good length.

In places where you ſometimes meet with Barbel, as at *Shepperton* and *Hampton*, in *Middleſex*, the fitteſt line is one of ſix or ſeven hairs at top; and ſo diminiſhing for two yards, let the reſt be ſtrong Indian-graſs, to within about half a yard of the hook, which may be whipped to a fine graſs or ſilk-worm gut; and this line will kill a fiſh of ſix pound weight.

But for mere Roach and Dace-fiſhing, accuſtom yourſelf to a ſingle-hair line, with which an artiſt may kill a fiſh of a pound and a half weight.

For your Float, in ſlow Streams, a neat round gooſe-quill is proper, but for deep or rapid rivers, or in an eddy, the cork, ſhaped like a pear, is indiſputably the beſt; which ſhould not, in general, exceed the ſize of a nutmeg; let not the quill, which you put through it, be more than half an inch

will tell you, Scholar, I once heard one ſay, "I "envy not him that eats better meat than I do, "nor him that is, richer, or that wears better "clothes than I do; I envy no body but him, "and him only, that catches more fiſh than I do." And ſuch a man is like to prove an Angler, and this noble emulation I wiſh to you and all young Anglers.

inch above and below the cork; and this Float, tho' ſome prefer a ſwan's-quill, has great advantage over a bare quill; for the quill being defended from the water by the cork, does not ſoften, and the cork enables you to lead your line ſo heavily, as that the hook ſinks almoſt as ſoon as you put it into the water; whereas, when you lead but lightly, it does not get to the bottom 'till it is near the end of your ſwim. See the form of the Float Plate IX. Fig. 16. and, in leading your lines, be careful to balance them ſo nicely, that a very ſmall touch will ſink them; ſome uſe for this purpoſe lead, ſhaped like a barley-corn, but there is nothing better to lead with than ſhot, which you muſt have ready cleft always with you, remembring, that when you fiſh fine, it is better to have on your line a great number of ſmall than a few large ſhot.

Whip the end of the quill round the plug with fine ſilk, well wax'd; this will keep the water out of your Float, and preſerve it greatly.

In fiſhing with a Float your line ſhould be about a foot ſhorter than your rod; for if it is longer you cannot ſo well command your hook when you come to diſengage the fiſh.

Pearch and Chub are caught with a Float, and alſo Gudgeons, and ſometimes Barbel and Grayling.

For Carp and Tench, which are ſeldom caught but in ponds, uſe a very ſmall gooſe or a duck-quill Float; and for ground-bait, throw in, every now and then, a bit of chewed bread.

For Barbel, the place ſhould be baited the night before you fiſh, with graves; which are the ſediment of melted tallow, and may be had at the tallow-chandlers: uſe the ſame ground-bait while you are fiſhing, as for Roach and Dace.

In fiſhing with a Float for Chub, in warm weather, fiſh at mid-water, in cool lower, and in cold at the ground.

CHAP.

CHAP. XVIII.

Of the MINNOW *or* PENK, *of the* LOACH, *and of the* BULL-HEAD, *or* MILLER'S-THUMB.

PISCATOR.

THERE be also three or four other little fish that I had almost forgot, that are all without scales, and may for excellency of meat be compared to any fish of greatest value, and largest size. They be usually full of eggs or spawn all the months of summer; for they breed often, as 'tis observed mice and many of the smaller four-footed creatures of the earth do; and as those, so these come quickly to their full growth and perfection. And it is needful that they breed both often and numerously, for they be, besides other accidents of ruine, both a prey, and baits for other fish. And first, I shall tell you of the Minnow or Penk.

The Minnow hath, when he is in perfect season and not sick, which is only presently after spawning, a kind of dappled or waved colour, like to a Panther, on his sides, inclining to a greenish and skie-colour, his belly being milk-white, and his back almost black or blackish. He is a sharp biter at a small worm, and in hot weather makes excellent sport for young Anglers, or boys, or women that love that recreation, and in the spring they make of them excellent Minnow-Tansies; for being washed well in salt, and their

their heads and tails cut off, and their guts taken out, and not waſht after, they prove excellent for that uſe, that is, being fryed with yolks of eggs, the flowers of cowſlips, and of primroſes, and a little Tanſie; thus uſed they make a dainty diſh of meat.

The Loach is, as I told you, a moſt dainty fiſh, he breeds and feeds in little and clear ſwift brooks or rills; and lives there upon the gravel, and in the ſharpeſt ſtreams: he grows not to be above a finger long, and no thicker than is ſuitable to that length. This

LOACH

is not unlike the ſhape of the Eel: he has a beard or wattels like a Barbel. He has two fins at his ſides, four at his belly and one at his tail; he is dapled with many black or brown ſpots, his mouth is Barbel-like under his noſe. This fiſh is uſually full of eggs or ſpawn, and is by *Geſner* and other learned phyſicians commended for great nouriſhment, and to be very grateful both

both to the palate and ſtomach of ſick perſons; he is to be fiſhed for with a very ſmall worm at the bottom, for he very ſeldom or never riſes above the gravel, on which I told you he uſually gets his living.

The Millers-thumb or Bull-head, is a fiſh of no pleaſing ſhape. He is by *Geſner* compared to the Sea-toad-fiſh, for his ſimilitude and ſhape. It has a head, big and flat, much greater than ſuitable to his body; a mouth very wide and uſually gaping. He is without teeth, but his lips are very rough, much like to a File; he hath two fins near to his gills, which be roundiſh or creſted, two fins alſo under the belly, two on the back, one below the vent, and the fin of his tail is round. Nature hath painted the body of this fiſh with whitiſh, blackiſh, browniſh ſpots. They be uſually full of eggs or ſpawn all the ſummer, I mean the females, and thoſe eggs ſwell their vents almoſt into the form of a dug. They begin to ſpawn about *April*, and, as I told you, ſpawn ſeveral months in the ſummer; and * in the

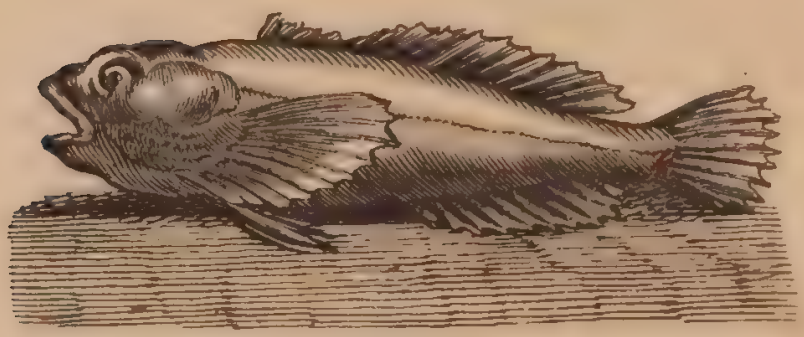
* Since *Walton* wrote there has been brought into *England*, from *Germany*, a ſpecies of ſmall fiſh, reſembling Carp in ſhape and colour, called *Crucians*; with which many ponds are now plentifully ſtocked.

There has alſo been lately brought hither, from *China*, thoſe beautiful creatures *Gold* and *Silver* Fiſh; the firſt are of an orange colour, with very ſhining ſcales, and finely variegated with black and dark-brown; the Silver Fiſh are of the colour of ſilver tiſſue with ſcarlet fins, with which colour they are curiouſly marked in ſeveral parts of the body.

Theſe fiſh are uſually kept in ponds, baſons, and ſmall reſervoirs of water, to which they are a deligatful ornament; and I have known a few of them kept for years in a large glaſs veſſel like a punch bowl, with fine gravel ſtrewed at the

the winter the Minnow, and Loach and Bull-head dwell in the mud as the Eel doth, or we know not where; no more than we know where the cuckow and ſwallow, and other half-year-birds, which firſt appear to us in *April*, ſpend their ſix cold, winter, melancholy months. This

BULL-HEAD



does uſually dwell and hide himſelf in holes, or amongſt ſtones in clear water; and in very hot daies will lie a long time very ſtill, and ſun himſelf, and will be eaſie to be ſeen upon any flat ſtone, or any gravel, at which time, he will ſuffer an Angler to put a hook baited with a ſmall worm, very near unto his very mouth, and he never refuſes to bite, nor indeed to be caught

bottom; they may be ſo kept by frequently changing the water, and feeding them with Bread and Gentles

Thoſe who can take more pleaſure in angling for, than in beholding them, which I confeſs I could never do, may catch them with Gentles; but though coſtly, they are but coarſe food.

with

with the worſt of Anglers. *Matthiolus* * commends him much more for his taſte and nouriſhment, than for his ſhape or beauty.

There is alſo a little fiſh called a Sticklebag: a fiſh without ſcales, but hath his body fenced with ſeveral prickles. I know not where he dwells in winter, nor what he is good for in ſummer, but only to make ſport for boys and women-Anglers, and to feed other fiſh that be fiſh of prey, as Trouts in particular, who will bite at him as at a Penk, and better, if your hook be rightly baited with him; for he may be ſo baited as his tail turning like the ſail of a wind-mill, will make him turn more quick than any Penk or Minnow can. For note, that the nimble turning of that or the Minnow is the perfection of Minnow-Fiſhing. To which end, if you put your hook into his mouth, and out at his tail, and then having firſt tied him with white thred a little above his tail, and placed him after ſuch a manner on your hook as he is like to turn, then ſew up his mouth to your line, and he is like to turn quick, and tempt any Trout; but if he do not turn quick, then turn his tail a little more or leſs towards the inner part, or towards the ſide of the hook, or put the Minnow or Sticklebag a little more crooked or more ſtrait on your hook, until it will turn both true and faſt; and then doubt not but to tempt any great Trout that lies in a ſwift ſtream. And the Loach that I told you of, will do the like: no bait is more tempting, provided the Loach be not too big.

* *Petrus Andreas Matthiolus*, of *Sienna*, an eminent Phyſician of the ſixteenth Century, famous for his commentaries on ſome of the writings of *Dioſcorides*.

And now Scholar, with the help of this fine morning, and your patient attention, I have ſaid all that my preſent memory will afford me concerning moſt of the ſeveral fiſh that are uſually fiſht for in freſh waters.

Venat. But Maſter, you have by your former civility made me hope that you will make good your promiſe, and ſay ſomething of the ſeveral rivers that be of moſt note in this nation; and alſo of Fiſh-ponds, and the ordering of them, and do it I pray good Maſter, for I love any diſcourſe of rivers, and fiſh and fiſhing, the time ſpent in ſuch diſcourſe paſſes away very pleaſantly.

CHAP. XIX.

Of ſeveral Rivers, *and ſome Obſervations of Fiſh.*

PISCATOR.

WELL Scholar, ſince the ways and weather do both favour us, and that we yet ſee not *Tottenham-Croſs*, you ſhall ſee my willingneſs to ſatisfie your deſire. And firſt, for the rivers of this nation, there be, as you may note out of Doctor *Heylin's* geography and others, in number 325, but thoſe of chiefeſt note he reckons and deſcribes as followeth.

The chief is *Thameſis*, compounded of two rivers, *Thame* and *Iſis*; whereof the former, riſing ſomewhat beyond *Thame* in *Buckinghamſhire*, and

and the later near *Cirencester* in *Glocestershire*, meet together about *Dorchester* in *Oxfordshire*; the issue of which happy conjunction is the *Thamesis*, or *Thames*; hence it flyeth betwixt *Berks*, *Buckinghamshire*, *Middlesex*, *Surrey*, *Kent*, and *Essex*, and so weddeth himself to the Kentish *Medway* in the very jaws of the ocean: this glorious river feeleth the violence and benefit of the sea more than any river in *Europe*, ebbing and flowing twice a day, more than sixty miles; about whose banks are so many fair towns, and princely palaces that a *German* Poet thus truly spake:

Tot Campos, &c.

We saw so many Woods *and Princely* bowers,
Sweet Fields, *brave* Palaces, *and* stately Towers;
So many Gardens *dreſt with curious care*,
That Thames *with* royal Tyber *may compare* *.

2. The

* Though the current opinion is, that the *Thames* had its name from the conjunction of *Thame* and *Isis*, it plainly appears that the *Isis* was always called *Thames*, or *Tems*, before it came near the *Tame*. Gibson's *Camd.* Edit. 1753. p. 99.

And as to the head of the *Thame*, although it is generally supposed to be in *Oxfordshire*, *Camden* (whom we may suppose *Walton* followed) Brit. 315, says it is in *Buckinghamshire*.

But what shall we say to the following account, which *Lambarde* has adopted? "*Tame* (sayeth *Leland*) springeth "out of the hilles of *Hertfordshire*, at a place called *Bul-* "*burne*, a few myles from *Penlye*, (the house of a familie of "gentlemen, called *Verneys*) it runneth from thence to "*Ailesbury* in *Buckinghamshyre*, and to *Tame* (a Market- "town in *Oxfordshyre*, whearunto it gyveth the name) then "passinge under *Whetley*-bridge, it cometh to *Dorchester*, "and hard by joyneth with *Isis*, or *Ouse*, and from that "place joyneth with it in name also." *Dictionarium Topographicum* voce THAME.

2. The ſecond river of note, is *Sabrina* or *Severn:* it hath its beginning in *Plinilimmon-Hill* in *Montgomeryſhire*, and his end ſeven miles from *Briſtol*, waſhing in the mean ſpace the walls of *Shrewſbury*, *Worceſter*, and *Gloceſter*, and divers other places and palaces of note.

3. *Trent*, ſo called for thirty kind of fiſhes that are found in it, or for that it receiveth thirty leſſer rivers, who having his fountain in *Staffordſhire*, and gliding through the counties of *Nottingham*, *Lincoln*, *Leiceſter*, and *York*, augmenteth the turbulent current of *Humber*, the moſt violent ſtream of all the iſle. This *Humber* is not, to ſay truth, a diſtinct river, having a ſpring-head of his own, but it is rather the

Unfortunately *Leland*'s manuſcript has loſt twenty five leaves in that part of it where one might expect to find this paſſage. But the following extract, from an author of great authority, and who had a ſeat in the county of *Hertford*, will determine the queſtion.

" The *Thame* (the moſt famous river of *England*) iſſues " from three heads, in the pariſh of *Tring*; the firſt riſes in " an orchard, near the parſonage-houſe; the ſecond in a " place called *Dundell*; and the other proceeds from a " ſpring named *Balbourne*; which laſt ſtream joyns the other " waters at a place called *How-mill*, whence all, gliding to- " gether in one current, through *Putterham* in this county, " paſs by *Aiſlebury*, (a fair Market-town in *Buckinghamſhire*) " to *Ethorp* (an ancient pleaſant ſeat of that noble family " of the *Dormers*, Earls of *Caernarvon*) and croſſing that " county by *Nethy* abby to *Thame*, (a Market-town in *Ox-* " *fordſhire*, which borrows its name from this river) haſteth " away by *Whately*-bridge to *Dorcheſter*, (an ancient epiſco- " pal ſeat) and thence congratulates the *Iſis*; but both emu- " lating each other for the name, and neither yielding, they " are complicated by that of *Thamiſis*." Sir *Hen. Chauncy*'s Hiſtorical Antiquities of *Hertfordſhire*, p. 2. See alſo the later maps of *Hertfordſhire* and *Buckinghamſhire*.

mouth,

mouth, or *Æſtuarium*, of divers rivers here confluent and meeting together; namely, your *Derwent*, and eſpecially of *Ouſe* and *Trent*; and (as the *Danow*, having received into its channel, the river *Dravus*, *Savus*, *Tibiſcus*, and divers others) changeth his name into this of *Humberabus*, as the old geographers call it.

4. *Medway*, a *Kentiſh* river, famous for harbouring the royal navy.

5. *Tweed*, the north-eaſt bound of *England*, on whoſe northern banks is ſeated the ſtrong and impregnable town of *Berwick*.

6. *Tine*, famous for *Newcaſtle*, and her inexhauſtible coal-pits *. Theſe and the reſt of principal note, are thus comprehended in one of Mr. *Drayton*'s ſonnets.

Our floods' queen, Thames, *for ſhips and ſwans is crown'd*,
And ſtately Severn *for her ſhore is prais'd*,
The Chryſtal Trent *for fords and fiſh renown'd*,
And Avon's *fame to* Albion's *cliffs is rais'd*,

* It would have been beſide the author's purpoſe, and, indeed inconſiſtent with the brevity of his work, to have given ſuch a deſcription and hiſtory of the rivers of this kingdom as ſome readers would wiſh for: ſuch, however, may find, in *Selden*'s notes on the *Polyolbion*, a great variety of curious and uſeful learning on the ſubject. And it were to be wiſh'd that ſome perſon, ſkilled like *Leland*, *Camden*, *Lambarde*, or that excellent perſon abovementioned, in the antiquities of this country, if any ſuch there are, would undertake the delightful taſk of ſurveying them, and giving their hiſtory.

In the mean while we would recommend to our Angler the uſe of a Map of the county where he fiſhes; by means whereof he may ſee the rivers contained in it, with their courſes; which is, perhaps, as much as a mere Angler need know about the matter.

Carlegion Cheſter *vaunts her holy* Dee,
York *many wonders of her* Ouſe *can tell*,
The Peak *her* Dove, *whoſe banks ſo fertile be*,
And Kent *will ſay her* Medway *doth excell*;
Cotſwold *commends her* Iſis *to the* Tame,
Our Northern borders boaſt of Tweed's *fair flood*,
Our Weſtern parts extoll their Willy's *fame*,
And the old Lea *brags of the* Daniſh *blood* *.

Theſe

* "LEE flu. Lygan, Saxon. *Ley*, Mar. *Lea*, Polydoro. The name of the water which (runnyn betwene "*Ware* and *London*) devydethe, for a great part of the way, "*Eſſex* and *Hertfordſhyre*. It begynnethe near a place called *Whitchurche*, and from thence, paſſinge by *Hertford*, "*Ware*, and *Waltham*, openethe into the *homaſe*, at *Ham* "in *Eſſex*; wheare the place is, at this day, called *Lee* "*Mouthe*. It hathe, of longe tyme, borne veſſells from "*London*, 20 miles towarde the head; for, in tyme of "Kinge *Alfrede*, the *Danes* entered *Leymouthe*, and fortified "at a place adjoyninge to this ryver, 20 myles from *London*; where, by fortune, Kinge *Alfrede* paſſinge by, eſpied "that the channell of the ryver might be in ſuche ſorte "weakened, that they ſhould want water to returne with "their ſhippes; he cauſed therefore the water to be abated "by two great trenches, and ſettinge the *Londoners* upon "theim, he made theim batteil; wherein they loſt four of "their Capitaines, and a great nomber of their common "Souldiers, the reſt flyinge into the caſtle which they had "builte. Not longe after they weare ſo preſſed, that they "forſoke all, and lefte their ſhippes as a pray to the *Londoners*, which breakinge ſome, and burninge other, con"veyed the reſt to *London*. This caſtle, for the diſtance "might ſeme *Hertford*; but it was ſome other upon that "banke, which had no longe continuance; for *Edward* the "elder, and ſon of this *Alfrede*, builded *Hertford* not longe "after." *Vid.* Lambarde's *Dictionarium Topographicum*. Voce LEE. Drayton's *Poly-olbion*, Song the twelfth, and the firſt Note thereon.

Other authors, who confirm this fact, alſo add; That for the purpoſe aforeſaid he opened the mouth of the river.

Theſe obſervations are out of learned Dr. *Heylin*, and my old deceaſed friend *Michael Drayton*; and becauſe you ſay, you love ſuch diſcourſes as theſe of rivers and fiſh and fiſhing, I love you the better, and love the more to impart them to you: nevertheleſs, Scholar, if I ſhould begin but to name the ſeveral ſorts of ſtrange fiſh

ver. *Vid. Sir* William Dugdale's *Hiſtory of the embanking and draining the fens*, and *Sir* John Spelman's *Life of Alfred the Great, publiſh'd by* Hearne, *in* 8vo. 1709. the peruſal of which laſt named author will leave the reader in very little doubt but that theſe trenches are the very ſame that now branch off from the river between *Temple-Mills* and *Old Ford*, and, croſſing the *Stratford*-road, enter the *Thames* together with the principal ſtream, a little below *Blackwall*.

It is hardly ſuppoſable, that every reader of this work is acquainted with the character of that excellent Prince, whoſe wiſdom, and policy, are above celebrated. Let us therefore ſtop a moment, to contemplate that venerable and amiable aſſemblage of regal and private virtues, which has hitherto diſtinguiſhed his name: and when we are told, that he was the founder of that excellent conſtitution, which even foreigners confeſs to be the beſt formed in the world for the purpoſes of government; that he eſtabliſhed, if not invented, *the method of trial by juries*; that *he built many cities and churches*; reſtored, if not founded, the univerſity of *Oxford*, and *re-edified almoſt every monaſtery in his dominions*; that *he fought no leſs than fifty ſix battles*, including ſea-fights; that he was *pious, wiſe, chaſte; temperate, brave, learned, munificent*, and *merciful*; and that *he delivered this country from the inſupportable tyranny of the* Danes; who can reflect on his memory without gratitude and admiration!

Aſſerius Menevenſis, his hiſtorian, tells us, that, " for di-
" viding his time, and keeping an account of it, he cauſed
" wax-candles, to the number of ſix, to be made, each of
" them twelve inches long, on which he cauſed the inches
" to be marked; and having found that one of them burnt
" juſt four hours, he committed them to the care of the
" keepers of his chapel, who, from time to time, gave him
" notice

fish that are usually taken in many of those rivers that run into the sea, I might beget wonder in you, or unbelief, or both; and yet I will venture to tell you a real truth concerning one lately dissected by Dr. *Wharton*, a man of great learning and experience, and of equal freedom to communicate it; one that loves me and my art, one to whom I have been beholden for many of the choicest observations that I have imparted to you *. This good man, that dares do any thing rather than tell an untruth, did, I say, tell me, he lately dissected one strange fish, and he thus described it to me,

"The fish was almost a yard broad, and "twice that length; his mouth wide enough to "receive or take into it the head of a man, his "stomach seven or eight inches broad: he is of "a slow motion, and usually lyes or larks close "in the mud, and has a moveable string on his

"notice how the hours went. But, as in windy "earher the "candles were wasted by the impression of the air on the "flame, he, to remedy this inconvenience invented *Lant-* "*horns*, there then being no glass in his dominions."

The same author has given us the following pleasant story of him, which concludes this Note.

"Seeing his subjects fly the enemy, in the midst of his "country, he took the disguise of a common soldier, and "committed himself to one who had the keeping of the "King's cows; whose wife having one day set a cake of "bread to bake before the fire, where the King sat trim- "ming his bow and arrows; the cake burnt, which the "King heeded not, till the woman, inraged at his inatten- "tion, with all the fury of a good housewife, called him an "*idle Lubber*; and gave him to understand, that *if he ex-* "*pected to eat, he must work.*" Vide Spelman's *Life of Alfred aforesaid.*

* See an account of him, Page 19.

"head

" head about a ſpan, or near unto a quarter of " a yard long, by the moving of which, which " is his natural bait; when he lyes cloſe and " unſeen in the mud, he draws other ſmaller fiſh " ſo cloſe to him, that he can ſuck them into " his mouth, and ſo devours and digeſts them."

And, Scholar, do not wonder at this, for beſides the credit of the relator, you are to note, many of theſe, and fiſhes which are of the like and more unuſual ſhapes, are very often taken on the mouths of our ſea-rivers, and on the ſea-ſhore; and this will be no wonder to any that have travelled *Egypt*, where 'tis known the famous river *Nilus* does not only breed fiſhes that yet want names, but by the overflowing of that river, and the help of the ſun's heat on the fat ſlime which that river leaves on the banks, when it falls back into its natural channel, ſuch ſtrange fiſh and beaſts are alſo bred, that no man can give a name to, as *Grotius*, in his *Sopham*, and others, have obſerved.

But whither am I ſtraid in this diſcourſe? I will end it by telling you, that at the mouth of ſome of theſe rivers of ours, Herrings are ſo plentiful, as namely, near to *Yarmouth* in *Norfolk*, and in the weſt-country, Pilchers ſo very plentiful, as you will wonder to read what our learned *Camden* relates of them in his *Britannia*, p. 178, 186.

Well, Scholar, I will ſtop here, and tell you what by reading and conference I have obſerved concerning fiſh-ponds.

CHAP.

CHAP. XX.

Of fish-ponds, and how to order them.

DOCTOR *Lebault*, the learned *Frenchman*, in his large discourse of *Maison Rustique*, gives this direction for making of fish-ponds; I shall refer you to him to read it at large, but I think I shall contract it, and yet make it as useful.

He adviseth, that when you have dreined the ground, and made the earth firm where the head of the pond must be, that you must then in that place, drive in two or three rows of oak or elme piles, which should be scorcht in the fire, or half burnt before they be driven into the earth; for being thus used, it preserves them much longer from rotting; and having done so, lay fagots or bavins of smaller wood betwixt them, and then earth betwixt and above them, and then having first very well rammed them and the earth, use another pile in like manner as the first were: and note that the second pile is to be of or about the height that you intend to make your sluice or flood-gate, or the vent that you intend shall convey the overflowings of your pond in any flood that shall endanger the breaking of the pond-dam.

Then he advises that you plant willows or owlers about it, or both, and then cast in bavins in some places not far from the side, and in the most sandy places, for fish both to spawn upon,

and

and to defend them and the young frie from the many fiſh, and alſo from vermin that lie at watch to deſtroy them, eſpecially the ſpawn of the Carp and Tench, when 'tis left to the mercy of ducks or vermin.

He and *Dubravius* and all others adviſe, that you make choice of ſuch a place for your pond, that it may be refreſht with a little rill, or with rain-water running or falling into it; by which fiſh are more inclined both to breed, and are alſo refreſht and fed the better, and do prove to be of a much ſweeter and more pleaſant taſte.

To which end it is obſerved; that ſuch pools as be large and have moſt gravel, and ſhallows where fiſh may ſport themſelves, do afford fiſh of the pureſt taſte. And note, that in all pools it is beſt for fiſh to have ſome retiring place, as namely hollow banks, or ſhelves, or roots of trees to keep them from danger; and, when they think fit, from the extream heat of ſummer; as alſo, from the extremity of cold in winter. And note, that if many trees be growing about your pond, the leaves thereof falling into the water, make it naufeous to the fiſh, and the fiſh to be ſo to the eater of it.

'Tis noted that the Tench and Eel love mud, and the Carp loves gravelly ground, and in the hot months to feed on graſs: you are to cleanſe your pond, if you intend either profit or pleaſure, once every three or four years, eſpecially ſome ponds, and then let it lye dry ſix or twelve months, both to kill the water-weeds, as water-lillies, Candocks, Reate and Bull-ruſh[illegible] that breed there; and alſo that as theſe die for want

f

of water, ſo graſs may grow in the ponds bottom, which Carps will eat greedily in all the hot months if the pond be clean. The letting your pond dry and ſowing oats in the bottom is alſo good, for the fiſh feed the faſter: and being ſometime let dry, you may obſerve what kind of fiſh either increaſes or thrives beſt in that water; for they differ much both in their breeding and feeding.

Lebault alſo adviſes, that if your ponds be not very large and roomy, that you often feed your fiſh by throwing into them chippings of bread, curds, grains, or the entrails of Chickens, or of any fowl or beaſt that you kill to feed your ſelves; for theſe afford fiſh a great relief. He ſays that frogs and ducks do much harm, and devour both the ſpawn and the young frie of all fiſh, eſpecially of the Carp. And I have, beſides experience, many teſtimonies of it; but *Lebault* allows water-frogs to be good meat, eſpecially in ſome months, if they be fat: but you are to note, that he is a *French*-man, and we *Engliſh* will hardly believe him, though we know frogs are uſually eaten in his country: however, he adviſes to deſtroy them and King-fiſhers out of your ponds; and he adviſes, not to ſuffer much ſhooting at wild-fowl, for that he ſays affrightens, and harms and deſtroys the fiſh.

Note, that Carps and Tench thrive and breed beſt when no other fiſh is put with them into the ſame pond; for all other fiſh devour their ſpawn; or at leaſt the greateſt part of it. And note, that clods of graſs thrown into any pond, feed any Carps in ſummer; and that Garden-earth

and

and parſley thrown into a pond, recovers and refreſhes the ſick fiſh. And note, that when you ſtore your pond, you are to put into it two or three melters for one ſpawner, if you put them into a breeding-pond; but if into a nurſe-pond, or feeding-pond, in which they will not breed, then no care is to be taken, whether there be moſt male or female Carps *.

It is obſerved, that the beſt ponds to breed Carps are thoſe that be ſtony or ſandy, and are warm, and free from wind, and that are not deep, but have willow trees, and graſs on their ſides, over which the water does ſometimes flow: and note, that Carps do more uſually breed in marle-pits, or pits that have clean clay bottoms, or in new ponds, or ponds that lie dry a winter ſeaſon, than in old ponds, that be full of mud and weeds.

Well Scholar, I have told you the ſubſtance of all that either obſervation or diſcourſe, or a diligent ſurvey of *Dubravius* and *Lebault* hath told me; not that they in their long diſcourſes have not ſaid more, but the moſt of the reſt are ſo common obſervations, as if a man ſhould tell

* The author has, p. 179, on the authority of *Geſner*, told us, that a Carp had been known to live, in the *Palatinate*, above an hundred years. The fact, as related by *Geſner*, is ſo curious as to deſerve a more particular mention, and is as follows:

" In the year 1497, a fiſh was caught in a pond near " *Haylprum* in *Suabia*, with a braſs ring at his gills, in " which were engraved theſe words: *I am the firſt fiſh which* " Frederick *the ſecond, governor of the world, put into this* " *pond, the fifth of* October 1233." By which it appears that this fiſh had then lived *two hundred and ſixty odd* years.

a good

a good arithmetician, that twice two is four. I will therefore put an end to this diſcourſe, and we will here ſit down and reſt us *.

CHAP. XXI.

Directions for making of a Line, and for the colouring of both Rod and Line.

PISCATOR.

WELL, Scholar, I have held you too long about theſe cadis, and ſmaller fiſh, and rivers, and fiſh-ponds, and my ſpirits are almoſt ſpent, and ſo I doubt is your patience; but being we are now almoſt at *Tottenham*, where I firſt met you, and where we are

* As the method of ordering fiſh-ponds is now very well known, and there are few books of gardening but what give ſome directions about it, it is hoped the reader will think the following quotation from *Bowlker* ſufficient, by way of annotation on this Chapter.

" When you intend to ſtock a pool with Carp or Tench, " make a cloſe ethering hedge acroſs the head of the pool " about a yard diſtance of the dam, and about three foot " above the water, which is the beſt refuge for them I know " of, and the only method to preſerve pool-fiſh; becauſe if " any one attempts to rob the pool, muddies the water, or " diſturbs it with nets, moſt of the fiſh, if not all, immedi- " ately fly between the hedge and the dam, to preſerve " themſelves; and in all pools, where there are ſuch ſhelters " and ſhades, the fiſh delight to ſwim backwards and for- " wards, through and round the ſame, rubbing and ſporting " themſelves therewith. This hedge ought to be made " chiefly of orls, and not too cloſe, the boughs long and

" ſtragling

are to part, I will loſe no time, but give you a little direction how to make and order your Lines, and to colour the hair of which you

" ſtragling towards the dam; by which means you may feed " and fatten them as you pleaſe. The beſt baits for drawing " them together at firſt, are, Maggots or young Waſps; the " next are, Bullock's-brains and Lob-worms chopped toge- " ther, and thrown into the pools in large quantities, about " two hours before ſun-ſet, Summer and Winter. By thus " uſing theſe ground-baits, once a day for a fortnight toge- " ther, the fiſh will come as conſtantly and naturally to the " place, as cattle to their fodder; and to ſatisfy your curi- " oſity, and convince you herein, after you have baited the " pool for ſome time, as directed, take about the quantity " of a two-penny loaf of wheaten bread, cut it into ſlices " and wet it; then throw it into the pool, where you had " baited, and the Carp will feed upon it: after you have " uſed the wet bread, three or four mornings, then throw " ſome dry bread in; which will lie on the top of the water: " and if you watch, out of ſight of the fiſh, you will pre- " ſently ſee them ſwim to it, and ſuck it in. I look upon " wheaten bread to be the beſt food for them; though barley " or oaten bread is very good. If there be Tench and " Pearch in the ſame pond, they will feed upon the four " former baits, and not touch the bread. Indeed there is " no pool-fiſh ſo ſhy and nice as a Carp. When the water " is diſturbed Carp will fly to the ſafeſt ſhelter they can; " which I one day obſerved, when aſſiſting a gentleman " to fiſh his pool; for another perſon diſturbed the water, " by throwing the caſting net; but caught never a Carp; " whereupon two or three of us ſtripped, and went into the " pool, which was provided with ſuch a ſort of a hedge in " it as is before deſcribed, whither the Carp had fled for " ſafety; then fiſhing with our hands on both ſides the " hedge, that is one on either ſide, we catched what quan- " tity of Carp was wanting." *Bowlker*, 62.

The reader may alſo conſult a book publiſhed about the year 1720, entituled, *A diſcourſe of Fiſh and Fiſh ponds*, by a perſon of honour; who, I have been told by one that knew him, was the Hon. *Roger North*, author of *The Life of the Lord Keeper* Guilford. See p. 127.

make your Lines, for that is very needful to be known of an Angler; and alſo how to paint your Rod; eſpecially your top, for a right-grown top is a choice commodity, and ſhould be preſerved from the water ſoaking into it, which makes it in wet weather to be heavy, and fiſh ill favouredly, and not true, and alſo it rots quickly for want of painting: and I think a good top is worth preſerving, or I had not taken care to keep a top above twenty years *.

But

* The author having ſaid nothing about chuſing or making Rods in any part of his book, it was thought proper to inſert the following directions. For fiſhing at the bottom, whether with a Running-line or Float, the Reed or Cane-rod is, on account of its lightneſs and elaſticity, the beſt, eſpecially if you angle for thoſe fiſh which bite but tenderly, a Roach and Dace; and of theſe there are Rods that put up, and make a walking-ſtick: there are others, in many joints, that put up all together in a bag, and are therefore called Bag-rods: theſe laſt are very uſeful to travel with, as they take up but little room. Next to theſe is the Hazle; but that is more apt to warp than the Cane: theſe, as alſo excellent Fly rods, are to be had at all the Fiſhing-tackle ſhops in *London*, and therefore need no particular deſcription; only be careful, whenever you beſpeak a Rod of Reed or Cane, that the workman does not rap down into the bark which grows round the joints, a fault which the makers of Rods are often guilty of; the conſequence whereof is, that the Rod is thereby made weaker at the joints than elſewhere; and there being no bark to repel the wet, it ſoon rots, and, whenever you hook a large fiſh, certainly breaks.

But if you live in the country, and are forced to make your own Rods, take theſe directions:

Between the latter-end of *November* and *Chriſtmas*, when the ſap is gone down into the roots of trees, gather the ſtraiteſt Hazles you can find, for ſtocks, and let them, at the greater end, be about an inch or more in diameter: at the ſame time gather ſhoots of a leſs ſize for middle-pieces and tops; tie them together in a bundle, and let them lie on a

dry

But firſt for your Line. Firſt, Note, that you are to take care, that your hair be round and clear, and free from galls or ſcabs, or frets; for a well-choſen, even, clear, round hair, of a kind of glaſs-colour, will prove as ſtrong as three uneven,

dry floor; at the end of fifteen months match them together, and to the ſlender end of the tops, after cutting off about eight or ten inches; whip a fine taper piece of whalebone of that length; then cut the ends of the ſtock, the middle-piece and the top with a long ſlant, ſo that they may join exactly to each other, and ſpread ſome Shoemaker's-wax, very thin, over the ſlants; bind them neatly with ſtrong waxed thread: and laſtly, fix a ſtrong loop of horſehair to the whalebone; let the Rod, ſo made, lie a week to ſettle before you uſe it: in this manner alſo you are to make a Fly-rod; only obſerve, that the latter muſt be much ſlenderer from the end of the ſtock than the former.

But, for the neateſt Fly-rod you can make, get a yellow whole-deal board, that is free from knots, cut off about ſeven feet of the beſt end, and ſaw it into ſquare breadths; let a joiner plain off the angles, and make it perfectly round, a little tapering; and this will ſerve for the ſtock: then piece to it a fine ſtrait Hazle, of about ſix foot long, and then a delicate piece of fine-grained Yew, planed round like an arrow, and tapering, with Whalebone as before, of about two feet in length: there is no determining preciſely the length of a Fly-rod; but one of fourteen feet is as long as can be well managed with one hand. To colour the ſtock, dip a feather in *Aqua Fortis*, and, with your hand, chafe it into the deal, and it will be of a cinamon colour.

But before you attempt this ſort of work, you muſt be able to bind neatly, and faſten off; for which directions are given in the Notes on Chap. XVII.

When the ſeaſon is over, and you have done with your Rods, take them to pieces, and bind the joints to a ſtrait pole, and let them continue ſo bound till the ſeaſon returns for uſing them again. See more directions about the Fly-rod. Part II. Chap. V.

Rods for Barbel, Carp, and other large fiſh, ſhould be of Hazle, and proportionably ſtronger than thoſe for Roach

even, ſcabby hairs, that are ill choſen, and full of galls or unevenneſs. You ſhall ſeldom find a black hair but it is round, but many white are flat and uneven, therefore if you get a lock of right, round, clear, glaſs-colour hair, make much of it.

And for making your line, obſerve this rule, firſt let your hair be clean waſht 'ere you go about to twiſt it: and then chuſe not only the cleareſt hair for it, but hairs that be of an equal bigneſs, for ſuch do uſually ſtretch all together,

and Dace: and note, that for Fly-fiſhing the Bamboo cane is excellent. Screws to Rods are not only heavy, and apt to be out of repair, but they are abſolutely unneceſſary; and the common way of inſerting one joint in another is ſufficiently ſecure, if the work be true.

Our forefathers were wont to purſue even their amuſements with great formality. An Angler of the laſt age muſt have his fiſhing-coat, which, if not black, was, at leaſt, of a very dark colour; a black velvet cap, like thoſe which Jockeys now wear, only larger, and a Rod with a ſtock as long as a halbert; and thus equipped, would he ſtalk forth with the eyes of a whole neighbourhood upon him.

But in theſe later days Bag-rods have been invented, which the Angler may eaſily conceal, and do not proclaim to all the world where he is going: thoſe for Float-fiſhing are now become common; but this invention has lately been extended to Rods for Fly-fiſhing; and here follows a deſcription of ſuch a neat, portable, and uſeful one, as no Angler, that has once tried it, will ever be without.

Let the joints be four in number, and made of Hiccary, or ſome ſuch very tough wood, and two foot four inches in length, the largeſt joint not exceeding half an inch in thickneſs. The top muſt be Bamboo ſhaved; and for the ſtock, let it be of Aſh, full in the graſp, of an equal length with the other joints, and with a ſtrong ferrel at the ſmaller end, made to receive the large joint, which muſt be well ſhouldered, and fitted to it with the utmoſt exactneſs.

This Rod will go into a bag, and lie very well concealed in a pocket, in the lining of your coat on the left ſide, made ſtrait on purpoſe to receive it.

and

and break all together, which hairs of an unequal bigneſs never do, but break ſingly, and ſo deceive the Angler that truſts to them.

When you have twiſted your links, lay them in water for a quarter of an hour at leaſt, and then twiſt them over again before you tie them into a line: for thoſe that do not ſo, ſhall uſually find their line to have a hair or two ſhrink, and be ſhorter than the reſt at the firſt fiſhing with it, which is ſo much of the ſtrength of the line loſt for want of firſt watering it and then re-twiſting it; and this is moſt viſible in a ſeven-hair line, one of thoſe which hath always a black hair in the middle*.

And

* Your Line, whether it be a Running-line, or for float-fiſhing, had beſt be of Hair, unleſs you fiſh for Barbel, and then it muſt be of ſtrong Silk; and the latter muſt be proportioned to the general ſize of the fiſh you expect; always remembering that the Single Hair is to be preferred for Roach or Dace-fiſhing: but the Fly-line is to be very ſtrong, and, for the greater facility in throwing, ſhould be eighteen or twenty hairs at the top, and ſo diminiſhing inſenſibly to the hook. There are Lines now to be had, at the Fiſhing-tackle ſhops, that have no joints, but are wove in one piece.

But notwithſtanding this, and other improvements, perhaps, ſome may ſtill chuſe to make their own Lines; in which caſe, if they prefer thoſe twiſted with the fingers, they need only obſerve the rules given by the author for that purpoſe: but, for greater neatneſs and expedition, I would recommend an engine lately invented, which is now to be had at almoſt any Fiſhing-tackle ſhop in *London*; it conſiſts of a large horizontal wheel and three very ſmall ones, incloſed in a braſs box about a quarter of an inch thick, and two inches in diameter; the axis of each of the ſmall wheels is continued through the under-ſide of the box, and is formed into a hook: by means of a ſtrong ſcrew it may be fixed in any poſt or partition, and is ſet in motion by a ſmall winch in the centre of the box.

And for dying of your hairs, do it thus: Take a pint of ſtrong ale, half a pound of ſoot, and a little quantity of the juice of Walnut-tree leaves, and an equal quantity of allom; put

To twiſt links with this engine, take as many hairs as you intend each ſhall conſiſt of, and, dividing them into three parts, tie each parcel to a bit of fine twine, about ſix inches long, doubled, and put through the aforeſaid hooks; then take a piece of lead, of a conical figure, two inches high, and two in diameter at the baſe, with a hook at the *apex*, or point; tie your three parcels of hair into one knot, and to this, by the hook, hang the weight.

Laſtly, Take a common bottle-cork, and cut into the ſides, at equal diſtances, three grooves; and placing it ſo as to receive each diviſion of hair, begin to twiſt: you will find the link begin to twiſt with great evenneſs at the lead; as it grows tighter, ſhift the cork a little upwards; and when the whole is ſufficiently twiſted, take out the cork, and tie the link into a knot; and ſo proceed till you have twiſted links ſufficient for your line, obſerving to leſſen the number of hairs in each link in ſuch proportion as that the line may be taper. See the engine Plate X. Fig. 7. Fig. 8. is the form of the cork.

When you uſe the fly, you will find it neceſſary to continue your line to a greater degree of fineneſs; in order to which, ſuppoſing the line to be eight yards in length, faſten a piece of three or four twiſted links, tapering till it becomes of the ſize of a fine graſs, and to the end of this fix your Hook-link, which ſhould be either of very fine graſs, or Silk-worm gut. A week's practice will enable a learner to throw one of theſe lines; and he may lengthen it, by a yard at a time, at the greater end, till he can throw fifteen yards neatly; till when he is to reckon himſelf but a novice.

For the colour, you muſt be determined by that of the river you fiſh in: but I have found that a line of the colour of Pepper and Salt when mixed, will ſuit any water.

Many inconveniencies attend the uſe of twiſted hairs for your Hook-link; See Part II. Chap. V Silk-worm gut is both fine and very ſtrong, but then it is apt to fray; though this may, in ſome meaſure, be prevented by waxing it well.

Indian,

put theſe together into a pot, pan, or pipkin, and boil them half an hour; and having ſo done, let it cool; and being cold, put your hair into it, and there let it lie; it will turn your hair to be a kind of water or glaſs colour, or greeniſh, and the longer you let it lie, the deeper coloured it will be; you might be taught to make many other colours, but it is to little purpoſe; for doubtleſs the water-colour, or glaſs-coloured hair, is the moſt choice and moſt uſeful for an Angler; but let it not be too green.

But if you deſire to colour hair greener; then do it thus: take a quart of ſmall Ale, half a pound of Allom; then put theſe into a pan or pipkin, and your hair into it with them; then

Indian, or Sea-graſs makes excellent Hook-links; and though ſome object to it, as being apt to grow brittle, and to kink in uſing, with proper management it is the beſt material for the purpoſe yet known, eſpecially if ordered in the following manner:

Take as many of the fineſt you can get, as you pleaſe, put them into any veſſel, and pour therein the ſcummed fat of a pot wherein freſh, but by no means ſalt, meat has been boiled; when they have lain three or four hours, take them out one by one, and ſtripping the greaſe off with your finger and thumb, but do not wipe them, ſtretch each graſs as long as it will yield, coil them up in rings, and lay them by, and you will find them become near as ſmall, full as round, and much ſtronger than the beſt ſingle hairs you can get. To preſerve them moiſt, keep them in a piece of bladder well oiled, and, before you uſe them, let them ſoak about half an hour in water; or, in your walk to the river-ſide, put a length of it into your mouth.

If your graſs is coarſe, it will fall heavily in the water, and ſcare away the fiſh; on which account gut has the advantage. But, after all, if your graſs be fine and round, it is the beſt thing you can uſe.

put it upon a fire, and let it boil ſoftly for half an hour; and then take out your hair, and let it dry; and having ſo done, then take a pottle of water, and put into it two handfuls of Marygolds, and cover it with a tile, or what you think fit, and ſet it again on the fire, where it is to boil again ſoftly for half an hour, about which time the ſcum will turn yellow; then put into it half a pound of Copperas, beaten ſmall, and with it the hair that you intend to colour; then let the hair be boiled ſoftly till half the liquor be waſted; and then let it cool three or four hours, with your hair in it: and you are to obſerve, that the more Copperas you put into it, the greener it will be; but doubtleſs the pale green is beſt: but if you deſire yellow hair, which is only good when the weeds rot, then put in the more Marygolds, and abate moſt of the Copperas, or leave it quite out, and take a little Verdigreaſe inſtead of it.

This for colouring your hair. And as for painting your rod, which muſt be in oil, you muſt firſt make a ſize with glue and water boiled together until the glue be diſſolved, and the ſize of a lie-colour; then ſtrike your ſize upon the wood with a briſtle, or a bruſh, or pencil, whilſt it is hot; that being quite dry, take White-lead, and a little Red-lead, and a little Cole-black, ſo much as all together will make an aſh-colour; grind theſe all together with Linſeed-oil; let it be thick, and lay it thin upon the wood with a bruſh or pencil; this do for the ground of any colour to lie upon wood.

For

For a Grèen: Take Pink and Verdigreaſe, and grind them together in Linſeed-oil, as thin as you can well grind it; then lay it ſmoothly on with your bruſh, and drive it thin; once doing, for the moſt part will ſerve, if you lay it well; and if twice, be ſure your firſt colour be throughly dry before you lay on a ſecond.

Well, Scholar, having now taught you to paint your rod, and we having ſtill a mile to *Tottenham High-Croſs*, I will, as we walk towards it, in the cool ſhade of this ſweet honyſuckle hedge, mention to you ſome of the thoughts and joys that have poſſeſt my ſoul ſince we two met together. And theſe thoughts ſhall be told you, that you alſo may joyn with me in thankfulneſs, to the giver of every good and perfect gift, for our happineſs. And, that our preſent happineſs may appear to be the greater, and we the more thankful for it, I will beg you to conſider with me, how many do, even at this very time, lie under the torment of the Stone, the Gout, and Tooth-ache; and this we are free from. And every miſery that I miſs is a new mercy; and therefore let us be thankful. There have been, ſince we met, others that have met diſaſters of broken limbs; ſome have been blaſted, others thunder-ſtrucken; and we have been freed from theſe, and all thoſe many other miſeries that threaten human nature; let us therefore rejoice and be thankful. Nay, which is a far greater mercy, we are free from the unſupportable burthen of an accuſing, tormenting conſcience; a miſery that none can bear, and therefore let us praiſe him for his preventing grace, and ſay, Every miſery that

that I miſs is a new mercy: nay, let me tell you, there be many that have forty times our eſtates, that would give the greateſt part of it to be healthful and chearful like us; who, with the expence of a little money, have eat and drank, and laught, and angled, and ſung, and ſlept ſecurely; and roſe next day, and caſt away care, and ſung, and laught, and angled again; which are bleſſings rich men cannot purchaſe with all their money. Let me tell you Scholar, I have a rich neighbour, that is always ſo buſie that he has no leiſure to laugh; the whole buſineſs of his life is to get money, and more money, that he may ſtill get more and more money; he is ſtill drudging on, and ſays, that *Solomon* ſays, "The "diligent hand maketh rich:" and it is true indeed; but he conſiders not that 'tis not in the power of riches to make a man happy: for it was wiſely ſaid, by a man of great obſervation, "That there be as many miſeries beyond "riches, as on this ſide them:" and yet God deliver us from pinching poverty; and grant, that having a competency, we may be content, and thankful. Let not us repine, or ſo much as think the gifts of God unequally dealt, if we ſee another abound with riches; when, as God knows, the cares, that are the keys that keep thoſe riches, hang often ſo heavily at the rich man's girdle, that they clog him with weary days, and reſtleſs nights, even when others ſleep quietly. We ſee but the outſide of the rich man's happineſs; few conſider him to be like the Silk-worm, that, when ſhe ſeems to play, is, at the very ſame time, ſpinning her own bowels,

and

and consuming herself. And this many rich men do; loading themselves with corroding cares, to keep what they have, probably, unconscionably got. Let us, therefore, be thankful for health and competence, and above all, for a quiet conscience.

Let me tell you, Scholar, that *Diogenes* walked on a day, with his friend, to see a country fair; where he saw Ribbons, and Looking-glasses, and Nut-crackers, and Fiddles, and Hobby-horses, and many other gim-cracks; and having observed them, and all the other finnimbruns that make a compleat country fair; he said to his friend, "Lord! How many things are there "in this world of which *Diogenes* hath no need?" And truly it is so, or might be so, with very many who vex and toyl themselves to get what they have no need of. Can any man charge God, that he hath not given him enough to make his life happy? No, doubtless; for nature is content with a little: and yet you shall hardly meet with a man that complains not of some want; though he, indeed, wants nothing but his will, it may be, nothing but his will of his poor neighbour, for not worshipping, or not flattering him: and thus, when we might be happy and quiet, we create trouble to ourselves. I have heard of a man that was angry with himself because he was no taller, and of a woman that broke her Looking-glass because it would not shew her face to be as young and handsom as her next neighbour's was. And I knew another, to whom God had given health, and plenty; but a wife, that nature had made peevish, and her husband's riches had made purse-proud,

and

and muſt, becauſe ſhe was rich, and for no other vertue, ſit in the higheſt pew in the church; which, being denied her, ſhe engaged her huſband into a contention for it; and, at laſt, into a law-ſuit with a dogged neighbour, who was as rich as he, and had a wife as peeviſh and purſe-proud as the other: and this law-ſuit begot higher oppoſitions, and actionable words, and more vexations and law-ſuits; for you muſt remember, that both were rich, and muſt therefore have their wills. Well, this wilful, purſe-proud, law-ſuit, laſted during the life of the firſt huſband: after which his wife vext, and chid, and chid and vext, till ſhe alſo chid and vext herſelf into her grave; and ſo the wealth of theſe poor rich people was curſt into a puniſhment; becauſe they wanted meek and thankful hearts; for thoſe only can make us happy. I knew a man that had health and riches, and ſeveral houſes, all beautiful and ready furniſht; and would often trouble himſelf and family to be removing from one houſe to another: and being aſked by a friend, Why he removed ſo often from one houſe to another? replied; "It "was to find content in ſome one of them." But his friend knowing his temper, told him, if he would find content in any of his houſes, he muſt leave himſelf behind him; for, content will never dwell but in a meek and quiet ſoul. And this may appear if we read and conſider what our Saviour ſays in St. *Matthew*'s goſpel; for he there ſays, — "Bleſſed be the merciful, for they "ſhall obtain mercy.—Bleſſed be the pure in "heart, for they ſhall ſee God.—Bleſſed be the "poor in ſpirit, for theirs is the kingdom of

" heaven. And, — Bleſſed be the meek, for " they ſhall poſſeſs the earth." Not that the meek ſhall not alſo obtain mercy, and ſee God, and be comforted, and at laſt come to the kingdom of heaven; but in the mean time he, and he only, poſſeſſes the earth as he goes toward that kingdom of heaven, by being humble and cheerful, and content with what his good God has allotted him: he has no turbulent, repining, vexatious thoughts, that he deſerves better; nor is vext when he ſees others poſſeſt of more honour, or more riches than his wiſe God has allotted for his ſhare; but he poſſeſſes what he has with a meek and contented quietneſs; ſuch a quietneſs as makes his very dreams pleaſing, both to God and himſelf.

My honeſt Scholar, all this is told to incline you to thankfulneſs; and to incline you the more, let me tell you, that though the prophet *David* was guilty of Murder and Adultery, and many other of the moſt deadly ſins: yet he was ſaid to be a man after God's own heart, becauſe he abounded more with thankfulneſs than any other that is mentioned in holy ſcripture, as may appear in his book of pſalms; where there is ſuch a commixture of his confeſſing of his ſins and unworthineſs, and ſuch thankfulneſs for God's pardon and mercies, as did make him to be accounted even by God himſelf, to be a man after his own heart; and let us in that, labour to be as like him as we can; let not the bleſſings, we receive daily from God, make us not to value, or not praiſe him, becauſe they be common; let not us forget to praiſe him for the innocent mirth and pleaſure we have met with ſince we met together:

gether: What would a blind man give to ſee the pleaſant rivers, and meadows, and flowers, and fountains, that we have met with ſince we met together? I have been told, that if a man, that was born blind, could obtain to have his ſight for but only one hour, during his whole life, and ſhould, at the firſt opening of his eyes, fix his ſight upon the Sun when it was in his full glory, either at the riſing or ſetting of it, he would be ſo tranſported and amazed, and ſo admire the glory of it, that he would not willingly turn his eyes from that firſt raviſhing object, to behold all the other various beauties this world could preſent to him. And this, and many other like bleſſings, we enjoy daily; and for moſt of them, becauſe they be ſo common, moſt men forget to pay their praiſes; but let not us, becauſe it is a ſacrifice ſo pleaſing to him that made that Sun, and us, and ſtill protects us, and gives us flowers, and ſhowers, and ſtomachs, and meat, and content, and leiſure to go a fiſhing.

Well, Scholar, I have almoſt tir'd myſelf, and, I fear, more than almoſt tir'd you: but I now ſee *Tottenham High-Croſs*; and our ſhort walk thither ſhall put a period to my too long diſcourſe; in which my meaning was, and is, to plant that in your mind, with which I labour to poſſeſs my own ſoul: that is, a meek and thankful heart. And, to that end, I have ſhew'd you that riches without them, do not make any man happy. But let me tell you, that riches with them remove many fears, and cares; and therefore my advice is, that you endeavour to be honeſtly rich, or contentedly poor: but be ſure that your riches be juſtly got, or you ſpoil all.

For

For it is well said by *Cauſſin* *, " he that loſes his " conſcience, has nothing left that is worth keep- " ing." Therefore be ſure you look to that. And, in the next place, look to your health: and if you have it, praiſe God, and value it next to a good conſcience; for health is the ſecond bleſſing that we mortals are capable of; a bleſſing that money cannot buy; and therefore value it, and be thankful for it. As for money, which may be ſaid to be the third bleſſing, neglect it not: but note, that there is no neceſſity of being rich: for I told you, there be as many miſeries beyond riches, as on this ſide them: and, if you have a competence, enjoy it with a meek, chearful, thankful heart. I will tell you, Scholar, I have heard a grave Divine ſay, that God has two dwellings, one in Heaven, and the other in a meek and thankful heart. Which Almighty God grant to me, and to my honeſt Scholar: and ſo you are welcome to *Tottenham High-Croſs*.

Venat. Well Maſter, I thank you for all your good directions; but for none more than this laſt of thankfulneſs, which I hope I ſhall never forget. And pray let's now reſt ourſelves in this ſweet ſhady arbour, which nature herſelf has woven with her own fine fingers; 'tis ſuch a contexture of Woodbines, Sweetbrier, Jeſſamine, and Mirtle, and ſo interwoven, as will ſecure

* *Nicholas Cauſſin*, a native of *Troyes* in *Champagne*, wrote a book called, *The Holy Court*; of which there is an *Engliſh* tranſlation in Folio. He was eſteemed a perſon of great probity, and of ſuch a ſpirit, that he attempted to diſplace Cardinal *Richlieu*; but that miniſter proved too hard for him, and got him baniſhed. The ſentiment above quoted from him is worthy of *Marcus Antoninus* himſelf.

us both from the ſun's violent heat, and from the approaching ſhower; and, being ſat down, I will requite a part of your courteſies with a bottle of ſack, Milk, Oranges, and Sugar; which all put together, make a drink like Nectar, indeed, too good for any body but us Anglers; and ſo, Maſter, here is a full glaſs to you of that liquor; and when you have pledged me, I will repeat the verſes which I promiſed you: it is a copy printed amongſt ſome of Sir *Henry Wotton*'s *, and doubtleſs made either by him, or by a lover of Angling. Come Maſter, now drink a glaſs to me, and then I will pledge you, and fall to my repetition; it is a deſcription of ſuch Country Recreations as I have enjoyed ſince I had the happineſs to fall into your company.

Quivering fears, heart-tearing cares,
Anxious ſighs, untimely teares,
Fly, fly to courts,
Fly to fond worldling's ſports,
Where ſtrain'd Sardonick *ſmiles are gloſing ſtill,*
And grief is forc'd to laugh againſt her will.
Where mirth's but mummery,
And ſorrows only real be.

Fly from our country paſtimes, fly,
Sad troops of human miſery,
Come ſerene looks,
Clear as the chryſtal brooks,
Or the pure azur'd heaven that ſmiles to ſee
The rich attendance on our poverty;
Peace and a ſecure mind,
Which all men ſeek, we only find.

* See *Reliquiæ Wottonianæ*, 8vo. 1685. Page 390.

Abuſed

Abuſed mortals, did you know
Where joy, heart's-eaſe and comforts grow,
You'd ſcorn proud towers,
And ſeek them in theſe bowers,
Where winds ſometimes our woods perhaps may ſhake,
But bluſtering care could never tempeſt make,
Nor murmurs ere come nigh us,
Saving, of fountains that glide by us.

Here's no fantaſtick maſk nor dance,
But of our kids that friſk and prance;
Nor wars are ſeen,
Unleſs upon the green
Two harmleſs Lambs are butting one the other,
Which done, both bleating run each to his mother.
And wounds are never found,
Save what the plough-ſhare gives the ground.

Here are no entrapping baits
To haſten too, too haſty fates,
Unleſs it be
The fond credulity
Of ſilly fiſh, which, worldling like, ſtill look
Upon the Bait, but never on the hook:
Nor envy, 'leſs among
The birds for price of their ſweet ſong.

Go, let the diving Negro ſeek
For Gems hid in ſome forlorn creek:
We all pearls ſcorn,
Save what the dewy morn
Congeals upon each little ſpire of graſs,
Which careleſs ſhepherds beat down as they paſs:
And gold ne're here appears,
Save what the yellow Ceres *bears.*

Bleſt ſilent groves, oh may you be
For ever mirth's beſt nurſery!
May pure contents
For ever pitch their tents
Upon theſe downs, theſe meads, theſe rocks, theſe mountains,
And peace ſtill ſlumber by theſe purling fountains:
Which we may every year
Meet when we come a fiſhing here.

Piſc. Truſt me Scholar, I thank you heartily for theſe verſes, they be choicely good, and doubtleſs made by a lover of Angling: come, now, drink a glaſs to me, and I will requite you with another very good copy: it is a farewel to the vanities of the world, and ſome ſay written by Sir *Harry Wotton*, who I told you was an excellent Angler. But let them be writ by whom they will, he that writ them had a brave ſoul, and muſt needs be poſſeſt with happy thoughts at the time of their compoſure.

Farewel ye gilded follies, pleaſing troubles;
Farewel ye honour'd rags, ye glorious bubbles;
Fame's but a hollow eccho, gold pure clay;
Honour the darling but of one ſhort day.
Beauty, th' eye's idol, but a damaſk'd ſkin;
State but a golden priſon, to live in
And torture free-born minds: embroydred trains
Meerly but pageants for proud ſwelling veins;
And blood ally'd to greatneſs, is alone
Inherited, not purchas'd, nor our own.
Fame, honour, beauty, ſtate, train, blood and birth,
Are but the fading bloſſoms of the earth.

Plate VIII. to Front *Page 300.*

Wale, Inv. *Ryland Scu.*

Pub.d According to Act of Parliam.t 1759 -

I would be great, but that the Sun doth ſtill
Level his rayes againſt the riſing hill:
I would be high, but ſee the proudeſt oak
Moſt ſubject to the rending Thunder-ſtroak:
I would be rich, but ſee men, too unkind,
Dig in the bowels of the richeſt mind:
I would be wiſe, but that I often ſee
The Fox ſuſpected, whilſt the Aſs goes free:
I would be fair, but ſee the fair and proud,
Like the bright Sun, oft ſetting in a cloud:
I would be poor, but know the humble graſs
Still trampled on by each unworthy Aſs:
Rich hated: wiſe ſuſpected: ſcorn'd if poor:
Great fear'd: fair tempted: high ſtill envy'd more:
I have wiſh'd all; but now I wiſh for neither;
Great, high, rich, wiſe, nor fair; poor I'll be rather.

Would the world now adopt me for her heir,
Would beauty's queen entitle me the fair,
Fame ſpeak me fortune's minion, could I vie
Angels with India, *with a ſpeaking eye*
Command bare heads, bow'd knees, ſtrike juſtice dumb,
As well as blind and lame, or give a tongue
To ſtones by epitaphs: be call'd great Maſter
In the looſe rhimes of every poetaſter?
Could I be more than any man that lives,
Great, fair, rich, wiſe, all in ſuperlatives:
Yet I more freely would theſe gifts reſign,
Than ever fortune would have made them mine,
And hold one minute of this holy leiſure,
Beyond the riches of this empty pleaſure.

Welcome pure thoughts, welcome ye ſilent groves,
Theſe gueſts, theſe courts my ſoul moſt dearly loves:

Now the wing'd people of the ſkie ſhall ſing
My chearful anthems to the gladſom ſpring:
A Pray'r-Book now, ſhall be my looking-glaſs,
In which I will adore ſweet vertue's face.
Here dwell no hateful looks, no Palace-cares,
No broken vows dwell here, nor pale-fac'd fears:
Then here I'll ſit, and ſigh my hot love's folly,
And learn t'affect an holy melancholy;
And if contentment be a ſtranger then,
I'll ne're look for it, but in heaven agen.

Venat. Well, Maſter, theſe verſes be worthy to keep a room in every man's memory. I thank you for them; and I thank you for your many inſtructions, which God willing, I will not forget: and as St. *Auſtin* in his confeſſions, book 4. chap. 3, commemorates the kindneſs of his friend *Verecundus*, for lending him and his companion a country-houſe, becauſe there they reſted and enjoyed themſelves free from the troubles of the world; ſo, having had the like advantage, both by your converſation and the art you have taught me, I ought ever to do the like: for indeed, your company and diſcourſe have been ſo uſeful and pleaſant, that I may truly ſay, I have only lived ſince I enjoyed them and turned Angler, and not before. Nevertheleſs, here I muſt part with you, here in this now ſad place, where I was ſo happy as firſt to meet you: but I ſhall long for the ninth of *May*, for then I hope again to enjoy your beloved company at the appointed time and place. And now I wiſh for ſome ſomniferous potion, that might force me to ſleep away the intermitted time, which will paſs away with me as tedioufly, as it does with men in ſorrow; nevertheleſs

theleſs I will make it as ſhort as I can by my hopes and wiſhes. And my good Maſter, I will not forget the doctrine which you told me *Socrates* taught his Scholars, that they ſhould not think to be honoured ſo much for being philoſophers, as to honour philoſophy by their vertuous lives. You adviſed me to the like concerning Angling, and I will endeavour to do ſo, and to live like thoſe many worthy men, of which you made mention in the former part of your diſcourſe. This is my firm reſolution; and as a pious man adviſed his friend, that to beget mortification he ſhould frequent churches, and view monuments, and charnel-houſes, and then and there conſider, how many dead bones time had piled up at the gates of death: So when I would beget content, and increaſe confidence in the power, and wiſdom, and providence of almighty God, I will walk the meadows by ſome gliding ſtream, and there contemplate the lillies that take no care, and thoſe very many other various little living creatures, that are not only created but fed, man knows not how, by the goodneſs of the God of nature, and therefore truſt in him. This is my purpoſe; and ſo, let every thing that hath breath praiſe the Lord: And let the bleſſing of St. *Peter*'s maſter be with mine.

Piſc. And upon all that are lovers of vertue; and dare truſt in his providence, and be quiet, and go a Angling.

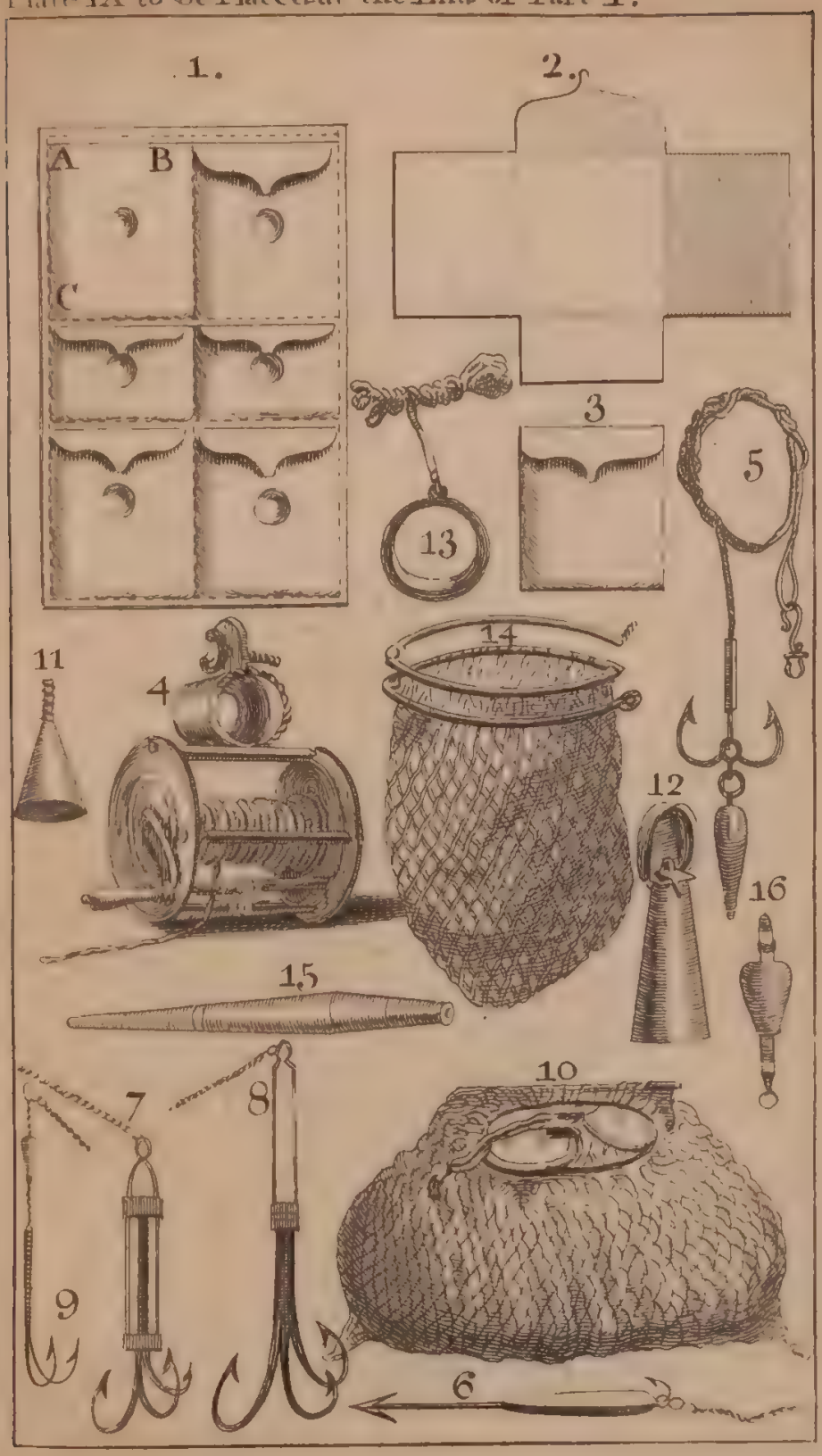
"Study to be quiet," 1 Theſ. 4. 11.

The END of the FIRST PART.

IT is imagined that the ſeveral deſcriptions of River-fiſh, contained in the foregoing pages, are abundantly ſufficient for the information of any mere Angler : *but thoſe who are curious to know the eſſential differences between the various ſpecies, are hereby recommended to a poſthumous work of that learned Man, and excellent Naturaliſt, the Reverend Mr.* John Ray, *entituled* Synopſis Methodica Avium et Piſcium, *publiſhed by Dr.* Derham, *in* Octavo, 1713.

THE

Plate IX to be Placed at the End of Part I.



Place X to Follow Plate IX.

R. Roberts Sculp.

Plate XI to Follow Plate X.

To Front the Title of Part II.

CHARLES COTTON *Esq:*
From an Original Painting in the
Possession of BROOKE BOOTHBY *Esq:*

P. Lely Pinx: *Ryland Sculp.*

Pub.d According to Act of Parliam.t 1759.

THE

COMPLETE ANGLER:

PART II.

BEING

INSTRUCTIONS how to ANGLE for a TROUT or GRAYLING in a clear Stream.

Qui mihi non credit, faciat licet ipſe periclum:
Et fuerit ſcriptis æquior ille meis.

LONDON. M.DCC.LX.

SOME

ACCOUNT

OF THE

LIFE and WRITINGS

OF

Charles Cotton, Esq;

In a LETTER to the EDITOR of
The Complete Angler.

THE pleasure we conceive, at the revival of some good old books, we have formerly read, by fair and accurate editions, somewhat resembles, methinks, that which we feel on the return of our hearty old friends and acquaintance to town, from their rural retreats and recesses; where they have been thought lost in obscurity, and worn out of memory; till finding, by their fresh

freſh and florid aſpects, at their reviſit, that they have been growing youthful in age, and renewed, as it were, a leaſe for years; we then receive them, not with that diffidence and reſerve wherewith new faces, and ſtrangers, are at firſt commonly admitted; but with that ready, free, and familiar chearfulneſs, or good will, which we ſhew to thoſe in whom we may confide; having before, in a manner, peruſed, and been pleaſed with their delightful and inſtructive contents.

Such is the ſatisfaction I promiſe myſelf, upon a new impreſſion, from your hands, of Mr. *Walton* and Mr. *Cotton*'s *Dialogues* of *Angling*; the two beſt performances, on that topic, in our tongue. But as the former did alſo oblige the public with the lives of ſeveral eminent men; 'tis much that ſome little hiſtorical monument has not, in grateful retaliation, been raiſed and devoted to his memory: the few materials I, long ſince, with much ſearch, gathered up concerning him, you have ſeen, and extracted, I hope, what you found neceſſary for the purpoſe I intended them. And as Mr. *Cotton* alſo, though a more voluminous writer, has been no leſs neglected, little having been attempted in remembrance of his life and works, I was deſirous of trying how far I could likewiſe make ſome recovery thereof.

This

This Gentleman, deſcended of a worthy and honourable family, was the grandſon of Sir *George Cotton*, Knight, a younger branch thereof, ſometime at *Southampton*; who dying about the year 1613, left, by his wife, *Caſſandra*, daughter and heireſs of the noble family of *M'Williams*, two children, namely, *Caſſandra*, who died unmarried; and *Charles Cotton*, of *Ovingden*, in the county of *Suſſex*, Eſq; who married the daughter of Sir *John Stanhope*, of *Elvaſton* in *Derbyſhire*, Knight *, and half brother to *Philip*, the firſt Earl of *Cheſterfield* †; which daughter Sir *John* had by *Olive*, his firſt wife, the daughter and heireſs of *Edward Beresford*, of *Beresford* and *Enſon* in *Staffordſhire*, and of *Bentley* in the county of *Derby* ‖; deſcended of the Lords of *Beresford*, *&c.* as is alſo the preſent Earl of *Tyrone*. This Lady, *Olive Stanhope*, died in 1614, aged about

* The *Viſitation* of *Staffordſhire*, in 1663 and 1664, by *William Dugdale*, Eſq; *Norroy*, King at Arms. In the Coll. of Arms. C. 36. Fol. 114.

† The *Peerage* of *Ireland*, by Mr. *John Lodge*, 1754. Vol II. p. 210.

‖ This Sir *John*, who died in *April* 1638, by his ſecond wife, *Mary*, daughter of Sir *John Radcliffe*, "of "*Oatſal* in *Lancaſhire*, Knight, was great grandfather "of *William* Earl of *Harrington*, Lord Lieutenant of "*Ireland*;" ſays Mr. *Lodge*, as above: but *Dugdale* calls it *Ordſal*, in that county; perhaps it is in *Nottinghamſhire*. *Vid. J. Adams*'s *Index Villaris*, Fol. 1680. p. 164.

thirty

thirty three years ; and *Michael Drayton*, a Poet, then in no ſmall requeſt, among his elegies, has one in her commendation. Her daughter, named likewiſe *Olive*, heireſs to her mother, left by her huſband, *Charles*, beforementioned, one ſon, named alſo *Charles Cotton*, of *Beresford*, Eſq; who is the ſubject of the enſuing narrative.

He was born on the twenty eighth of *April* 1630, and received, it ſeems, his education at *Cambridge*, as his father had alſo before him ; the particulars and productions whereof may, probably, more diſtinctly appear, when the public ſhall be obliged with thoſe many and much-deſired volumes, wherein have been preſerved the writers of that Univerſity, by a late learned and elaborate member thereof *. Of which Univerſity ſoever he was, he has, in a moſt cordial and grateful manner, remembered his tutor ; and having alſo named him, he ſhould ſeem to be that fellow of *Brazen-Noſe* college in *Oxford*, named *Ralph Rawſon*, who was ejected from his fellowſhip, by the parliament viſitors in 1648, and ſuffered great hardſhips 'till after the reſtoration: yet then, could only get reſtored, but never preferred †; this circumſtance, I think, tallies very well with Mr.

* The Rev. Mr. *Thomas Baker*.
† *Athen. Oxon.* Vol. II. Col. 1044.

Cotton's

Cotton's tranſlation of an ode in *Joannes Secundus*, and his inſcription thereof to his dear tutor, Mr. *Ralph Rawſon*; declaring what contrarieties, or inconſiſtencies, ſhould diſconcert or diſorder the courſe and frame of nature before he would neglect to take care of him, alive or dead*. If Mr. *Cotton* was his pupil at *Oxford*, he ſhould have been regiſtered among the *Oxonian* writers: if he received his inſtruction at *Cambridge*, as it is moſt likely he did, Mr. *Rawſon* might have removed thither after his ejectment, and been his inſtructor in that Univerſity; or he might be ſo, at his own habitation, under the eye of his father.

Beſides his academic, or claſſical learning, he was happy in a graceful addreſs, and well verſed in the modern languages; accompliſhments, which as they are not always the fruits either of domeſtic, or collegiate cultivation, we may ſuppoſe he acquired by travel; and indeed he himſelf mentions his having been in *France*, and other foreign countries†.

'Tis evident that after he came to be ſettled at home, he was early in much eſteem, and converſant with many ingenious perſons of high rank and repute, more eſpe-

* *C. Cotton*'s poems on ſeveral occaſions, &c. p. 547.

† In his book of *Angling*, alſo in the Volume aforeſaid of his poems, &c.

cially

cially with his couſin, Sir *Aſton Cockayne*, Bart. of *Pooley* in *Warwickſhire*, and *Aſhbourn* in the *Peak*; who was well known to the noted poets and other wits of his time, and had a poetical genius himſelf; alſo with *Thomas Flatman*, Eſq; barriſter of the *Inner Temple*; Mr. *Thomas Bancroft*, of *Swarſton*; *Alexander Brome*; *Iſaac Walton*, and others; by all whom he has had commendatory verſes, letters, and characters, beſtowed on him for the virtues of his mind, and the productions of his pen. *Gerard Langbaine* has mentioned two other Poets among thoſe who have written verſes in his praiſe; the one is *Robert Herrick*, Eſq; who, in his book of poems, has, indeed, one copy to his honoured and moſt ingenious friend, Mr. *Charles Cotton* *. But this I take to be addreſſed rather to the father than the ſon; the other is Colonel *Richard Lovelace*: and I remember, in a volume of his poems, one, named *The Graſshopper*, inſcribed to his noble friend, Mr. *Charles Cotton*; and another on the death of Mrs. *Caſſandra Cotton*, only ſiſter to Mr. *Charles Cotton*: and both theſe poems were written before, or in the year 1649 †. But though it has been

* *R. Herrick*'s *Heſperides*, 8vo. 1648. p. 352.

† See Colonel *Lovelace*'s *Lucaſta*, *&c.* 12mo. 1649. p. 34, *&c.*

thought

thought they were addreſſed to *Charles Cotton*, the younger, by *Langbaine* * and others, who never knew the character of the elder, or had read the pedigree of the family; yet, by thoſe who have been acquainted with both, it may be perceived that both thoſe poems were inſcribed to the father, eſpecially by the elegy on his ſiſter, before-mentioned; of whoſe name, or any other, it appears not that he had a daughter. Not but the younger *Cotton* acknowledges how durably he was commemorated in the chronicle of fame, by that accompliſhed Gentleman, Colonel *Lovelace*; whoſe fortunes, indeed, though in greater extremes, did much reſemble his own; and regrets that he cannot make him an adequate return; though it is apparent that he was doing it at the ſame time †. There are, moreover, in being, ſeveral manuſcript letters, written by Mr. *Charles Cotton* to Mr. *Philip Kynder*, whoſe natural hiſtory of *Derbyſhire*, or rather proluſion to an intended one ‡, and ſeveral other diſcourſes, remain alſo unprinted §.

* In his *Engliſh* dramatic poets, *&c.* 8vo. 1691. p. 77.

† *Cotton*'s poems, p. 481. to the memory of his worthy friend, Colonel *Richard Lovelace*, (who died in 1658.)

‡ *Nicholſon*'s *Engliſh* Hiſtorical Library, Fol. 1736. p. 12.

§ In the *Aſhmolean* Library at *Oxford*.

But

But thoſe letters, we preſume, were written by Mr. *Cotton*, the father, and, probably, upon the ſubject of that hiſtory; he being endowed with ſuch excellent talents in the deſcription of rural ſituations, as to have been coupled therein, by a competent judge, with Sir *Philip Sidney* *. We may alſo find, that one of the cantos in Sir *William Davenant*'s moſt noted poem †, written partly while he was priſoner in the Tower of *London*, *Anno* 1652, was dedicated, or directed, to the ſame Mr. *Cotton* the elder, as his ſon informs us; who has recited ſeven ſtanzas of it, and in acknowledgement of the honour done to his father, by preſerving his name, among the heroes revived thro' his pen, has, with his wonted liberality of mind, returned Sir *William* an ingenious anſwer, equal to, if not ſurpaſſing his pattern; alſo in ſeven ſtanzas and in his own manner of alternate verſe ‡.

From hence, and other inſtances that might be produced, as well as from the public encomiums ſo early beſtowed upon him, it is eaſy enough to be gathered, that he addicted himſelf betimes to the moſt elegant

* Mr. *Iſaac Walton*, in a note, p. 26, of *The Complete Angler*, Part II. printed in 1676.

† See Sir *William Davenant*'s works, Fol. 1673, in his *Gondibert*, Lib. 3. Canto 7.

‡ *Cotton*'s Poems, p. 372, 374.

enter-

entertainments of literature; and alſo to the delightful amuſements of planting, gardening, and, above all, the ſober recreation of Angling, as what would give the greateſt latitude and indulgence to contemplation, relieve his mind after ſevere ſtudy, ſequeſter him from impertinent company, moderate the inclination to ambitious purſuits, and promote the habits of peace and patience, under great diſappointments. And therein he became, by long practice and experience, moſt eminently expert.

It no where appears, that he was, in the former part of his life, very forward or ſolicitous to advance himſelf in the world; and I meet with no account of any preferment, that he then either enjoyed or ſought; tho' he had relations, friends, and intereſt enough among men of quality and power, to have procured ſuch advancement as would both have given authority to and received luſtre from his parts and abilities. And even afterwards, when his hoſpitality, and other freedoms with his eſtate, founded on too much confidence in the honour and integrity of thoſe, who were partakers thereof, had much involved or intangled, and reduced it, tho' obliged, ſomewhat reluctantly, to procure ſuch addition or recruits to his revenue, he ſtill ſeemed, in all the little intervals of unmoleſted quiet he could obtain, to pre-

fer a private to a publick life, and a calm retirement with the muſes to the buſtle of buſineſs; or ſwimming along with the courtly ſhoal of competitors, for promotion, profit, and precedency, thro' the active torrents of employment; wherein tho' he might live according to the ſenſe of *Seneca*, more extenſively known to others, he thought he ſhould but die more ignorant of himſelf. And in his praiſe of *Contentation*, to his old friend or father *Walton*, beſides others of his poetical pieces, he often ſpeaks in his own ſenſe to the ſame purpoſe*.

The firſt or more juvenile exerciſes of his pen, were, it ſeems, in Poetry; and if his elegy on the Earl of *Derby* † was not written, as perhaps it was, earlier than a twelvemonth after that Nobleman was beheaded; it gives, at leaſt, a ſpecimen of his poetical qualifications, by the time he was twenty two years of age. His father, who was himſelf a man of bright parts, and engaging accompliſhments, gave him themes, and authors, whereon to exereiſe his judgment and learning, beſides the topics he voluntarily enjoined himſelf, even to the time that he entered into the ſtate of matrimony: but I do not find that any of his performances appeared from the preſs till ſome few years after the reſtoration.

* His Poems, p. 252. † *Idem.* p. 411.

Among

Among his poems are divers odes, ſongs, and other love-verſes to Ladies, of whom thoſe with black hair and eyes generally ſeem to have engaged moſt of his praiſe and admiration. But in his two poems, ſtiled *The Separation*, he deſcribes one Lady, " with the " ſweeteſt perſon, and faireſt mind,"---" who " met him with an equal flame :"---" never- " theleſs, the ſuperſtitious law would di- " vide their bloods, becauſe too near."

He has another poem, printed before theſe ; but when written appears not, entituled, *La Illuſtriſſima*, on his fair and dear ſiſter, Mrs. *Anne King* ; and he beſtows ſuch tranſcendent applauſes on her, as would incline us to believe this was the Lady ſpoken of in the other two poems ; " but that, ſays he, no love inhabits her " breaſt :" and yet it might, if this laſt poem was written before the two former. Though no ſiſter of his is mentioned in the pedigree before referred to.

However this was, about the year 1656, he married *Iſabella*, daughter of Sir *Thomas Hutchinſon*, of *Owthorp* in the county of *Nottingham*, Knt. by whom he had *Bereſford Cotton*, born in 1657, or the following year, and *Charles*, born about ſeven or eight years after, beſides *Olive* and *Catherine* * ;

* The Pedigree of *Cotton*, in *Dugdale's* Viſit. as before.

alſo other daughters, born, it ſeems, after the abovementioned Viſitation was made. Mr. *Cotton* married to his ſecond wife, *Mary*, the daughter of Sir *William Ruſſel*, of *Strenſham Court* in *Worceſterſhire*, and widow of *Wingfield Cromwell*, Earl of *Ardglaſs*, by whom he had no iſſue *. And as it will appear that this Counteſs, his ſecond wife, ſurvived Mr. *Cotton*, I ſee not what room or authority there can be for giving him a third, as a late editor of *The Complete Angler* has done; who, in his own preface to the work, ſpeaking of *Walton*, and ſoon after of *Cotton*, ſays, "that he "married a daughter of *Walton*." I ſuſpect that this aſſertion has no better foundation than *Cotton*'s dedication of the ſecond part; which, by the way, the Gentleman abovementioned has omitted to publiſh; wherein he calls Mr. *Izaak Walton*, his father. The reader will hereafter ſee very good reaſon to believe that *Cotton* was nothing more than an adopted ſon of *Walton*'s; and *Cotton* himſelf claims no other relation to him †; where he ſays, "he gives me leave to call him father, "and I hope he is not aſhamed to own me "for his adopted ſon." It is true that *Walton* had a daughter, but ſhe was otherwiſe

* Mr. *Lodge*'s Peerage of *Ireland*, as above. Query if the ſame Counteſs of *Ardglaſs* who died in *Dublin* 1710?

† *Compl. Angl.* Part II. Page 6. Edit. 1676.

dif-

diſpoſed of as appears in the life of Mr. *Walton*, prefixed to theſe dialogues*. In what harmony he lived with either or both his ladies is now perhaps but indiſtinctly to be remembered; but his general opinion of the matrimonial ſtate, may appear in his poems; eſpecially one, not the leaſt noted among them, which he ironically calls, *The joys of marriage*†; wherein after having, to the various perfections of all the ſex, oppoſed the extreams of their contraſting qualities, and allowed the golden mean to none; and after a ſhort declaration, that in reſpect to his own choice, he had no cauſe to complain, though his very love created his woe; yet he concludes in every part, and the whole, upon the uneaſineſs of a married life.

The father of Mr. *Cotton*, who had long lived in great reſpect among perſons of the higheſt rank and reputation, died in the year 1658‡. There is a curious portrait of his character in a late poſthumous publication drawn by the hand of a moſt delicate intellectual limner, no leſs a one than the famous Earl of *Clarendon*; and tho' it bears in many parts ſo ſtrong a reſemblance of the ſon,

* See alſo a ſhort account of the life of Dr. *Thomas Ken*, late Biſhop of *Bath* and *Wells*, by *William Hawkins*, Eſq; of the *Middle Temple*, 8vo. 1713, &c.

† *Cotton*'s Poems, p. 36.

‡ *Dugdale*'s Viſit. as before.

eſpecially in his latter fortunes, as to induce a ſuppoſition that it was intended for him; yet as the noble author could not know the latter part of the ſon's life, as he died thirteen years before him, in his exile at *Rouen*, it muſt be beheld as his Lordſhip's genuine draught of the father.

The reader will find by the character itſelf which we ſhall give in the noble author's own words, that the elder Mr. *Cotton* was a gentleman of no ordinary accompliſhments; and his opinion of him will be very much raiſed when he finds he was one of that learned and ingenious ſociety, to whoſe company and converſation his Lordſhip, as well for his improvement as delight, while a Student, devoted his leiſure hours; it conſiſted of the following eminent perſons, namely; *Ben. Johnſon*, Mr. *Selden*, Mr. *Cotton*, Mr. *John Vaughan*, afterwards Chief Juſtice of the Common Pleas, Sir *Kenelm Digby*, Mr. *Thomas May* the tranſlator of *Lucan*, and others. His Lordſhip has drawn their characters in his uſual maſterly way and that of Mr. *Cotton* is as follows:

" CHARLES COTTON was a gentleman, " born to a competent fortune; and ſo qua- " lified in his perſon and education, that, " for many years, he continued the greateſt " ornament of the town, in the eſteem of " thoſe who had been beſt bred. His na-

" tural

" tural parts were very great; his wit flow-
" ing, in all the parts of converſation; the
" ſuperſtructure of learning not raiſed to a
" conſiderable height; but having paſſed
" ſome years in *Cambridge*, and then in
" *France*, and always with learned men,
" his expreſſions were ever proper and ſig-
" nificant, and gave a great luſtre to his
" diſcourſe upon any argument; ſo that he
" was thought, by thoſe who were not in-
" timate with him, to have been much bet-
" ter acquainted with books than he was.
" He had all thoſe qualities, which, in
" youth, raiſe men to the reputation of be-
" ing fine gentlemen; ſuch a pleaſantneſs
" and gaiety of humour, ſuch a ſweetneſs
" and gentleneſs of nature, and ſuch a ci-
" vility and delightfulneſs in converſation,
" that no man, in the court, or out of it,
" appeared a more accompliſhed perſon, all
" theſe extraordinary qualifications being
" ſupported by as extraordinary clearneſs of
" courage, and fearleſſneſs of ſpirit; of
" which he gave too often manifeſtation.
" Some unhappy ſuits in law, and waſte of
" his fortune, in thoſe ſuits, made ſome im-
" preſſion upon his mind, which being im-
" proved by domeſtic afflictions, and thoſe
" indulgencies to himſelf, which naturally
" attend thoſe afflictions, rendered his age
" leſs reverenced, than his youth had been,

" and gave his beſt friends cauſe to have " wiſhed, that he had not lived ſo long*."

Though Mr. *Cotton* might have recommended ſeveral books and tracts, before he died, to the peruſal of his ſon; and [illegible] were written or tranſlated by him under [illegible] father's direction, yet have I met with [illegible] thing of his in print 'till the fourth year after the reſtoration; and then came out in a ſmall volume, *The moral philoſophy of the Stoicks*, tranſlated from the *French* of Monſieur *de Vair*, preſident of the parliament at *Provence*. 'Tis dedicated to his couſin, *John Ferrar*, Eſq; is dated in *Feb.* 1663, and printed in a thin Octavo, 1664 †; but was tranſlated ſeven years before, at his father's command, as he informed us himſelf ‡. This book had been tranſlated by Dr. *Thomas James*, the firſt keeper of the *Bodleian* Library, above threeſcore years before ‖.

Some panegyric he had written, whether upon the *King's Return*, or not, I am not certain; all that I have ſeen of his on that ſubject, being only an invitation of ſome friend to a merry meeting on that joyful occaſion, and no panegyric; yet, whoever it

* Life of *Edward* Earl of *Clarendon*, in Folio, *Oxford*, 1759. p. 16.

† Alſo again in 1667, 1671, &c.

‡ In the ſaid Dedication.

‖ *London*, 8*vo.* 1598.

was,

was, he ſo celebrated, it not being performed in ſuch a manner as was expected, a line of cenſure was thrown out at it, in a certain libelling *Seſſion of the Poets*: but as Mr. *Waller* ſeems to have had no hand in this Lampoon, it was not that, but his *Panegyric* on *Oliver Cromwell**, which moved Mr. *Cotton* to inſcribe a ſatire to him, as others had alſo done †. But *Cotton* in the *Seſſions* aforeſaid is allowed to have made *amends*, however unlikely the method, by repreſenting a part of the graveſt and greateſt poet among the *Romans*, in a kind of maſquerade dreſs ‡, which next appeared under the title of *Scarronides*; or *Virgil Traveſtie*: being the *firſt book* of *Virgil*'s *Æneis*, in *Engliſh Burleſque*, Octavo, 1664.

It would be an excurſion that might lead me away even up to the times of antiquity, and ſo be thought too tedious for an *epiſtolary* diſcourſe, to trace the ſtile, humours and other liberties of *Traveſty*, *Parody*, *Burleſque*, *Doggrel*, and ſuch like poetical writings to their ſources: therefore it may be enough in this place to deduce a few detached hints, that may perhaps ſuggeſt or lead to ſome rules of direction; and eſpecially to obſerve, in behalf of Mr. *Cotton*, that

* *Cotton*'s Poems, p. 483.
† *Athen. Oxen.* Vol. II. Col. 25.
‡ *Vid. State Poems*, 8vo. Vol. I. 1703. p. 206.

he

he has in his compoſitions of this caſt and complexion, taken no greater freedom with *Virgil*, than others likewiſe with ſucceſs had done before him; as they had alſo with *Homer*, *Horace*, *Ovid*, *Lucan*, *Claudian*, and others of the antient claſſics. For indeed, all ages and countries have produced wits diſpoſed to turn grave, ſolid, and lofty arguments or characters into thoſe that are lepid, ludicrous, and groteſque; or repreſent ſerious and elevated actions in jocular, familiar, and fantaſtic phraſes; as in *Scarron* and *Cotton*'s *Traveſties*, or *John Philips*, the nephew of *Milton*, in his *Maronides*. And not only to *veſt Apollo* in the jacket of *Harlequin*, but alſo, on the contrary, to diveſt mean petty perſons, and trite, or trivial topics and events, of their plain proper and ſuitable trappings, to *bedizen* them out in *Pimlico*, or bloat them up with turgid bombaſt, or deck them in all the gorgeous and glittering robes of majeſtic ſtile and ſentiment; as in *Taſſone*'s *Secchia Rapita*, *Boileau*'s *Lutrin*, and *John Philips*, of *Hereford*, in his *Cyder*, and *Splendid Shilling*.

In either attire, *Burleſque* is moſtly deſigned to be a kind of comic ſatire, in comical verſe; and that conſiſting much in the ſurprize created by ſuch new, ſtrange, and unexpected, yet ſignificant rhimes, as were ſcarcely ever harneſs'd together before.

A delicate *burleſque*, is perhaps as hard to be produced, as an exact *Epic* poem; it has many improprieties to avoid. A ſingle period of ſterling wit and humour, is not common in *Proſe*, but a cluſter and continuation of them in *Verſe* is rare indeed! 'tis hard in this *Path* for the muſe to keep a graceful *Pace* long, without tripping; and moſt compoſed minds look upon this freakiſh kind of poetry, but as the froth of the *Caſtalian* ſpring; which will often break and fly off for want of ſpirits to ſupport it. To paint even the *Foam* of *Pegaſus* in perfection, may be as difficult, as *Apelles* found it, to draw only that of *Bucephalus*, when he performed in deſpair, at laſt, by *Chance*, what he could not do with all his Art.

However it may be of good or bad tendency and conſequence, according as when, where, how, on what, or at, to, and by whom it is aimed or applied; it may be a uſeful inſtrument, rightly conducted, to expoſe fraud, and impoſture, enthuſiaſm, hypocriſy, ſuperſtition, chicanery, quackery, pedantry; with many affectations and vanities, faſhions and follies, failings and foibles of life, uſually below the ſharp, heavy ſcourge of ſatire, and often more effectually reforming by ſuch kinds of pleaſant and palatable raillery, than the moſt ſevere and ſermonizing reaſon; as, on the other hand,

it

may be a miſchievous weapon, no leſs ſubject to offend and degrade religion, government, laws, morals, manners, eſpecially chaſtity, and reputation; even juſtice, truth, and public virtue itſelf. But as the general end of ſhewing the *muſe* thus in her *frolics* and *vagaries*, is, or ſhould be, no more than innocent and inoffenſive diverſion, by agreeably variegating our ideas, as ſome glaſſes may be held in ſuch a poſition, as to invert their objects; there requires great delicacy and diſcretion to keep within the limits of decency and decorum, that no part degenerates into any thing profane, obſcene, ſcurrilous, or bordering upon the defiling manners, and low, vulgar cant, or other tainted terms of *Billingſgate*. Manners themſelves may be better reformed than by unmannerly means; wherein the very ſalve might poiſon the ſore. 'Tis true, he muſt be a *Cynic* indeed, who can endure no tale to be told, on a proper occaſion, and in fit company, after a *drole* manner; but to found a profeſſorſhip of mockery, or buffoonery, and commence a *Doctor* of *Drollery*, upon all ſubjects, before all perſons, and in all places, muſt reduce a *man* to a *monkey*, and expoſe him more contemptibly than a mountebank. It were, ſurely, an abject ambition, never to be envied by refined and more *rectified ſpirits*, to ſurpaſs, in all their

moſt

moſt conſummate qualities, the beſt *Dutch* pickle-herring, *Scotch* merry-andrew, or *Engliſh* jack-pudding, that ever exiſted. If parallels and deductions often yield convincing confirmations, and from compariſons, as Philoſophers ſay, ariſe the greateſt part of our knowledge *, it may be in the conduct of a man's thoughts, and expreſſions in his *writings*, much as in his carriage, his geſture, his voice, and countenance, in his *converſation*. He need not have the faculties of his mind, no more than the features of his face, continually ſtarched and ſtiffened up with gravity, like *Falſtaff*'s men in buckram: yet is it preferable to ſee a *viſage* fixed like a *vizard*, or a *buſto* in plaiſter of *Paris*, than always diſtorted, as if by convulſions, into ſcornful ſneer and grimace. Habit, in this humour, often ſtretches to exceſs; and, from moderate liberties of this kind, men have, at laſt, become licentious. They may either quibble the characters of wit and wiſdom away, in a few conundrums, or ſcribble them away, in two or three *Cantos* of burleſque, as *Aretine*, at a piece of ribaldry, loſt his life in a fit of laughter †. Many, through this vain paſſion of outſhining all others, and making

* Sir *Tobie Matthews*'s Letters, publiſhed by Dr. *J. Donne*, the younger. 8vo. 1660. p. 169

† *Bayle*'s Dictionary, in the article of *P. Aretine*.

them-

themſelves moſt extravagantly entertaining, have ſo much unbridled and indulged this vein of ridicule, as to render themſelves ridiculous; and by ever forcing either hearers, or readers, with their farcical mimicries, to an unwilling compliance of grinning, giggling, and laughing with them, have, in the end, ſunk ſo low, or become ſo rude, as to be laughed at, with ſcorn and abhorrence *by them*; eſpecially when they perceive how likely it is to be their own caſe; and how much in danger themſelves, their reputations, or any of their company ever are, either preſent or abſent, under ſuch diſpoſitions, to the like deriſion and defamation. Such precautions may need ſo much more to be regarded, by how much ſtronger the temptations are to tranſgreſs them; and theſe general heads upon thoſe attractive topics of *burleſque*, in ſublime arguments, or *banter*, in ſerious diſcourſe, inducing to ſome moderation, or reſtriction, and confinement of them to proper objects, will not be thought to preſs too heavily upon them, by thoſe who have read how they have been handled by Sir *William Temple*, Mr. *Dryden*, and other moſt able and approved judges. Much leſs is this digreſſion meant to reflect, with the leaſt diſagreeable warmth, upon any performance of Mr. *Cotton*'s in this kind, as he engaged his pen much more in ſober proſe, than in all his

his poetry: but, if kindly accepted, as it is intended, it may not altogether be unſerviceable to thoſe whom hereafter it may more nearly concern.

Yet a little further, and more particularly upon the progreſs and entrance into *England*, of this exotic diſguiſe of wit, under the title of *Burleſque*; not improbably derived from the *Italian Burla*, or *Burleſco*. When it had revelled through *Italy* for above a century, and climbed over the *Alps*, it ſoon overrun *France*, found that rank, or luxuriant ſoil ſo thriving, and proved ſuch a dainty *Ragou* to their ſuperfine taſte, that there was no rooting it out, or bringing it under any moderate reduction, for twenty years at leaſt. In the midſt of this career we are told, the frenſy ran ſo high, that no bookſeller would meddle with any poetical compoſition, without *Burleſque*; inſomuch that the *Crucifixion* itſelf could not eſcape it*. But how bold and alarming ſoever the title of that performance here referred to might appear, it proved but a deception to the libertine readers, when they found it a miſconſtruction, to conclude, *that* ſolemn *Subject* was treated with levity and irreve-

* *La paſſion de noſtre ſeigneur*. En vers burleſques. *Paris*, 8vo. 1649. See *Rymer*'s Short view of Tragedy. *Cap.* 1. Alſo *Biographia Gallica*, Vol. I. 8vo. 1752. p. 118.

rence,

rence, becauſe the common idea or conception of this *Stile* might bear ſuch a ſportive implication; for at that time all the *French* verſification, which was confined to eight or nine ſyllables, eſpecially with ſo many of their diſſi.able, or double rhimes was called *Burleſque Verſe*; and indeed their *Heroic* verſe is little better for the ſame reaſon, and partly for their ill choſen meaſure and cadence; as father *Rapin*, and others of their beſt critics have obſerved.

We are informed that this Burleſque ſtile was begun in *France*, by St. *Amant*; and that it was accuſed, in him, with its moſt common defect, of being too low and vulger: but *Scarron*, ſtriking out a more polite ſpecies of it, heightened with a brighter mixture of wit and humour, about the beginning of our civil wars, recovered and eſtabliſhed its credit. It thence grew into ſuch high requeſt for its ſucceſsful operations, that, like our *Ballads*, it was uſed as a moſt ready expedient, and effectual *Catholicon*, to aſſuage and appeaſe all turbulent humours of any party in the body politic, during all the wars of *Paris*, and the diſputes of cardinal *Mazarine*'s miniſtry, nothing being equal to it for the diſpatch of buſineſs. It was uſed as a terrible artillery againſt that crafty *Italian*, and a ſplay-footed rhime came croſs him ſometimes, like a chain-

chain-ſhot, where a ſpeech in parliament dropp'd without execution.

And yet this meteor of *Burleſque* did not blaze long in that horizon, after the death of *Scarron*; but then it roſe in ours, with greater refulgence, in the matchleſs *Hudibras*. The firſt part of this poem was publiſh'd about three years after *Scarron*'s death *, and about twelve months before Mr. *Cotton*'s work appeared from the preſs; when the humour was ſo advantageouſly animated, and, as it were, naturalized, by Mr *Butler*; and the taſte of the town ſo favourably prepared to receive and reliſh any tolerable imitations, that Mr. *Cotton*'s performance was thought, by ſome, to meet, in part, with the ſucceſsful reception it did, for attending or coming forth, under the umbrage, or protection, as it was beheld of that poem; though its intrinſic merit, by others, was believ'd ſufficient to recommend it to the publick. Whether his *ſecond* book of *Virgil*, ſo converted, was printed while he lived, I know not; but read, that there was an edition of it after his death †. We are informed that, together with the *firſt* book of *Virgil*, he alſo found encouragement to publiſh the *fourth*, ſo traveſtied in Octavo,

* In *Octavo*, 1663.

† In *Octavo*, 1692. Vid. *Catal. Libr. Impreſſ.* in *Bibl. Bodl. Fol. Oxon.* 1738. p. 320.

1667: and that this volume was reprinted ſome years after. Among the generality of readers, theſe poems, and others of his, in this ſtile, were eſteem'd equal with, if not beyond, what had appear'd from the *Italians* and the *French*, among us; or in our other *Mock Heroics*, and counterfeits of *Butler*, whether in the *Hogan-Moganides*, or *Dutch*, the *Scotch*, *Iriſh*, *Welch Hudibras*, *Butler's Ghoſt*, or any other, in this ſpecies of writing. The character which *Langbaine* has given us of *Cotton's Scarronides*, is as follows: "Though the title ſeems to imply as if this "poem was an imitation of *Scarron*, who "has tranſlated eight books of *Virgil*, in "the ſame manner; yet thoſe who will "compare both theſe pieces, will poſſibly "find, that he has not only exceeded the "*French*, but all others that have attempted in that kind, to the reſerve of the incomparable *Butler*, the famed author of "*Hudibras**."

Our author now applying his thoughts more ſedately, had undertaken in the leiſure of a country life, to tranſlate a curious and copious piece of *French* hiſtory; but before he had gone through a fourth part of it, he was call'd away by ſome employment, or poſt, that was conferred upon him; as we

* Dram. Poets, p. 76.

may

may learn from his own words*. After he was diſcharg'd of that employment, he was again interrupted, for ſome conſiderable time, from proceeding upon the ſaid hiſtory, by a tedious and uncomfortable ſickneſs, which long indiſpoſed him to finiſh it; but he ſo earneſtly reſumed his deſign, after he was recovered of his diſorder, that before the end of 1669, he completed the tranſlation; and it was publiſh'd the next year, under the title of, *The hiſtory of the life of the Duke of* Eſpernon, *the great favourite of* France; *in twelve books*; containing the *hiſtory of* France, *&c.*† Engliſh'd by *Charles Cotton*, Eſq; and printed in *Folio*, 1670. It was written by the Duke's ſecretary, Monſieur *Gerard*; had been publiſhed about fifteen years before Mr. *Cotton* tranſlated it, and ſince had other editions in *France*; being accounted a faithful accurate, and well-penn'd work. The *Engliſh* tranſlation is dedicated, by our author, to his countryman, *Gilbert Sheldon*, archbiſhop of *Canterbury*; becauſe, beſides the motives of his patron's great virtues, of affability and beneficence, he was alſo prompted thereto by an honeſt vanity, that it ſhould be known, how *private* ſoever his

* In his *Pref.* to *The Life of the Duke of* Eſpernon.
† From 1598, where *D'Avila* ceaſes, to 1642.

life had been, he had not always converſed with *obſcurity*; but that he had the honour to be ſometime known unto, and favour'd by one of the greateſt prelates, and beſt of men upon earth; and much to the ſame purpoſe concludes, that, " it has the better ti-" tle to his acceptance, as 'tis the fruit of " the moſt innocent part of his time; and " offered with a heart as grateful, for the " many favours he had receiv'd from his " grace's bounty, and as full of honour and " reverence for his perſon and dignity, as " any man, who in a better, and more " ſtudied ſtile, may take the boldneſs to ſub-" ſcribe himſelf, *&c.**" And further, in his intelligent *preface*; having ſpecified the common inducements of others for undertaking long labours of this nature, he declares, that none of them had prompted him to it, not even any view of advantage; that conſideration *being ever* very much *below his thoughts:* but what gave him the greateſt invitation was, the merits of his illuſtrious worthy, in the many and great examples of his ſurmounting all envy and oppoſition; in diſtinguiſhing his incorruptible loyalty, under all his diſtreſſes; and in a rich

* Mr. *Cotton*'s Dedication to the Archbiſhop of *Canterbury*.

variety

variety of other remarkable incidents, relating as well to the public, as his own perſonal hiſtory.

We may obſerve, that the employment he above mentions to have had, he reſigned, or was diſmiſs'd from, before he underwent the long fit of ſickneſs which enſued; therefore it was different from that which he had, ſoon after the publication of this hiſtory, as he elſewhere alſo informs us. For, being either in queſt of ſome property in *Ireland*, or upon duty in ſome ſervice there, having now a commiſſion in the army, he made a journey thither; when he was, as he tells us, forty years of age. And in his way the mayor of *Cheſter*, ſeeing his glorious gold belt, and doubtleſs other ſuitable accoutrements, having invited him to ſupper, and enquired what country he was of, in what eſtate and condition, and the cauſe of his journey? he anſwered, that he was of *Staffordſhire*; that he had lands good and bad; but a great part mortgaged: that he had a little ſmattering in the law, which he got by hearing of cauſes; but had ever ſtudied arms more than arts, and was then raiſed by his deſerts, to the rank of a Captain. But in his voyage over the *Iriſh* ſeas, he was encountered with ſuch a boiſterous ſtorm, for ten hours,

that he was driven back 'till the wind veered *.

He next publiſhed his tranſlation of the *Tragedy* of *Horace*, from the *French* of *Peter Corneille*; notwithſtanding that it had been tranſlated before by Sir *William Lower*, and Mrs. *Catherine Philips*, the celebrated *Orinda*. He is reckoned to have much ſurpaſſed the Knight's performance, and equalled at leaſt the lady's, tho' with great modeſty and generoſity he gives hers the preference. He did not ſend it to the preſs 'till five years after he had tranſlated it; and he dedicates it *to his dear ſiſter*, Mrs. *Stanhope Hutchinſon*, perhaps the ſiſter he was ſo fond of. It was publiſhed in *Quarto*, 1671. being, perhaps, a more correct edition than that printed in a ſmaller form the year before. A more enlarged account of it may be ſeen in *Langbaine*, and the names of thoſe antient hiſtorians, from whom the plot or argument is drawn †. I meet with no appearance that he made in print, till three years after; and then came out his verſion of a little *French* novel, as I take it, named, *The fair one of* Tunis, *or the generous miſtreſs*, Octavo, 1674. I do not now remember whether it is dedicated

* See his *Voyage* to *Ireland*, in three *Cantos*, burleſque, among his *poems*, from p. 168, to 211.

† Dram. Poets, p. 74, 75.

to

to any eminent perſon he was known to, not having ſeen it of many years.

The fruits of his pen now appear'd again in hiſtory; and he oblig'd the publick with his tranſlation of *the Commentaries of* Blaiſe de Monluc, *Mareſchal of France*; wherein are deſcrib'd, all the *combats, rencounters, ſkirmiſhes, battles, ſieges, aſſaults, ſcalados*; the *taking* and *ſurpriſing* of *towns* and *fortreſſes*; as alſo the *defences* and *aſſaults* of the *beſieged*, &c. printed *Folio*, 1674 *. The author was a vivacious enterpriſing *gaſcon*, and did command in ſome of the wars he treats of. He arrogates much ſometimes to his own ſagacious conduct; but his arts of magnifying little difficulties and deliverances, are not imperceptible to diſcerning eyes, through all the ſlender cobwebs of his own political exaggerations. He had one or more notable faculties of ſome modern warriors; being very quick-ſighted in the approach of danger, and very quick-footed to avoid it. For among his beſt ſtratagems in the arts of war, his greateſt dexterity ſeems to have lain ſometimes in the arts of flight, or elſe he had never roſe to be Mareſchal of *France*, as he intimates himſelf: which more particularly exemplified in his runagade ſafety at the ſiege of *Boulogne*, yet alſo in

* Again, *Fol.* 1688.

reviling the *Engliſh* valour, and other *gaſconades*, the Lord *Herbert* has very decently diſplay'd *. Nor will *Naudæus* allow the affairs he has deſcribed are ſo wonderful as the author would have them believed: yet others agree that, with proper allowances for ſome parts, there are often good intelligences to be met with in thoſe commentaries. This verſion needs no encomiums here, after what has been ſaid by Mr. *Flatman*, in his verſes, on the work of the author, to the worthy tranſlator, *C. Cotton*, Eſq; †

In the next year appeared two little books more of his writing; the firſt in proſe, called *The Planter's Manual*; being *inſtructions* for *cultivating* all ſorts of *fruit trees*, 8vo. 1675, relating to the propagation and improvement of ſuch trees, in their adapted ſoils; a ſubject, both natural and neceſſary, to engage the conſideration of all thoſe who are deſirous to enrich, and adorn their gardens, orchards, and other encloſures about their eſtates. The other piece is written in verſe, and publiſhed under the title of, *Burleſque upon Burleſque*, or the *Scoffer Scoffed*; being ſome of *Lucian*'s *Dialogues* put into

* Hiſt. of K. *Henry* VIII. *Fol.* 1683. p. 585. *Sub. Ann.* 1544.

† *T. Flatman*'s Poems and Songs, 2d edit. *&c.* 8*vo.* 1676. p. 129. on which volume there is a commendatory poem prefixed, among others, by *C. Cotton.*

Engliſh

Engliſh Fuſtian; for the *conſolation* of thoſe who had rather *laugh* and be *merry*, than be *merry* and *wiſe*. Printed in 12*mo*. 1675. As the author, who knew his own temper, calls himſelf, in his *Pſeudologiſta*, an incontinent laugher *; *Caſper Barthius*, who has given a moderate, and perhaps equitable character of his philoſophy, might have ſome foundation to call him, *Deorum hominumque irriſorem*: a derider both of gods and men. Thoſe dialogues, in *Engliſh*, have paſſed five editions at leaſt; and our tranſlator, in his *Prologue*, thought the ſcenes in them, might paſs for plays, with thoſe which were written by a certain Dutcheſs, who was gone to write in a new world of her own making: by whom it is ſuppoſed, he meant the Dutcheſs of *Newcaſtle*; who died about two years before this publication, and had partly writ a kind of play, among many others, called *The Blazing World* †. As he hated all corrupters of manners, and the dialogues were wrote in haſte, he hopes ſome words, which might eſcape in the heat of fancy, may be winked at; and ſome of his readers have wiſhed, that he had omitted, or altered the dialogue between *Apollo* and *Bacchus*: however, as he informs us in his *Epilogue*, that all

* Ἀκρατὴς γελωτοποιός.

† *Langbaine*, p. 392, 393.

his

his other writings of this kind, having met with public approbation, he meant hereafter, to ſet forth *Lucian's Dialogues of the dead*; but they never appeared under his hand, whatever was performed afterwards of that kind, by *Tom Brown*, and others.

But now, his old friend Mr. *Walton* having propoſed to publiſh a new edition of his book of *Fiſhing*, engaged Mr. *Cotton*, to oblige all lovers of the ſport, with a communication of his long practice and obſervations thereon; that the manner of exerciſing the art, with the different tackle, baits, and uſage thereof, in the more *Northern* rivers, might be known, as well as in the *South*. Accordingly, to *Walton's Compleat Angler*, or *Contemplative Man's Recreation*, was added, the *ſecond part*; being *inſtructions* how to *angle* for a *Trout* or *Grayling* in a clear *ſtream*; by *Charles Cotton*, of *Beresford*, in the *Peak*, Eſq; dedicated to that virtuous man, the father of all anglers, and they were printed, together in *Octavo*, 1676; with the initial letters, engraved in the title page of Mr. *Cotton*'s part, of both their names, interwoven in a cypher, as it was carved over the door of his *Fiſhing Houſe*, on the ſwift and limpid river *Dove*. To paſs any judgment here upon this performance, may be needleſs, after what has been ſaid in its praiſe by *Walton* himſelf, *Langhaine*,

baine, and others, who have given us new impreſſions of it, or had occaſion, in other books on the ſame ſubject, to follow, or confirm any inſtructions therein: Among whom, I ſhall mention only one gentleman, who, ſpeaking occaſionally of this book, ſays of Mr. *Cotton*, that " he was without " doubt, the moſt laborious Trout-catcher, " if not the moſt experienced angler, both " for Trout and Grayling, that *England* ever " had *."

Further to avoid the importunities which would ſometimes intrude too abruptly upon him, as he often pathetically complains, he would wander from the calm attractions of his ſmooth ſtreams and rivers, to the wilder, more rugged, and ſtupendous proſpects and productions of nature, ſo rife in the neighbourhood about him; advancing his inveſtigations not only above, and upon, but under the earth; through the woods, mountains, rocks, caves, gulphs, mines, and quarries, which there, on every ſide, ſurrounded him. Then ſeeing the bewildering growth to which time had ſuffered thoſe romantic ſcenes to ſhoot forth, he thought they would as properly fall under the cognizance of *poetry*, as Biſhop *Nicholſon* thinks they would under

* *The Complete Fiſherman*, &c. by *James Saunders*, Eſq; *Octavo*, 1724. p. 94.

that

that of *natural Hiſtory**: ſo in emulation of Mr. *Hobbes*'s *Latin* poem, *De Mirabilibus Pecci*†, Mr. *Cotton* publiſhed his *Engliſh* one, containing, *The wonders of the Peak*‡. 'Tis written in good eaſy verſe of ten ſyllables; deſcribing the *ſeven wonders*‖, in a natural lively and pictureſque manner, as in ſo many landſkips. The ſeat and gardens at *Chatſworth*, with their noble lord, are principally celebrated; alſo *Mary* Queen of *Scots*, ſome time abiding at *Buxton*, for the benefit of its medicinal waters; and there are three or four lines in praiſe of Mr. *Hobbes*, for the perſpicuity of his ſtile, *&c.*

But now, our author having preſcribed himſelf a more extenſive taſk, gave us a new verſion of all *Montaigne*'s *Eſſays*: it made its appearance in three volumes *Octavo*, 1685; and was ſo acceptably received, the firſt tranſlation by *John Florio*, being grown

* *Engl.* Hiſt. Libr. p. 12.

† *Quarto*, 1666. 2d edit. reprinted with an *Engliſh* tranſlation, by a perſon of quality, 4*to*, 1678. There was alſo the *Nonſuch Wonder* of the *Peak* in *Derbyſhire*, by *H. A.* 8*vo*, 1669.

‡ *Quarto*, 1681, 1683, afterwards, with cuts, in 8*vo*, the 5th edit. with his *Scarronides* and *Lucian*, 1734.

‖ *Ædes, Mons, Barathrum, binus Fons, Antraque bina.*
HOBBES.

That is, *Chatſworth* houſe, *Mam-Tor*, *Elden* hole, *Buxton*, and *Weedon* wells, the *Devil's-arſe*, and *Pool*'s hole.

obſolete

obſolete, that it afterwards ran through two or three editions more*. There is a ſhort account of the *French* author, with a dedication by Mr. *Cotton*, to *Charles* Earl of *Halifax*, and a polite anſwer by his lordſhip to the tranſlator, prefixed, as I remember, for the work is not in any *Engliſh* edition now before me.

Theſe are all the books of his I have met with, which were publiſhed by him during his life; but there are two poſthumous publications of his writing, which for connexion ſake, with his other performances, and leaſt the chain of his literary labours ſhould be unlinked, or too much interrupted, may be here ſpoken of, before I mention the time of his death. One is, his *Poems on ſeveral Occaſions* †, often above referred to. They appear to be genuine; though perhaps too inadvertently, if not ſurreptitiouſly publiſhed; without that choice, correction, and order, in which the author's friends and family would have ſeen them ſent abroad. For the editor of the next book to be here ſpoken of, in his preface before it, has the following reflexion upon the publiſher of theſe poems, "Had the perſon who diſpoſed "of them, conſulted Mr. *Cotton*'s relations,

* 1693, 1711, 1723, &c.
† Printed in a large *Octavo*, 1693.

"both

" both his memory and the world had been
" more obliged to him; having obſtructed
" the publiſhing of a collection very diffe-
" rent, and well-choſen by the author,
" with a preface by himſelf, and all copied
" for the preſs; which would have made
" them as well received, as his other pre-
" formances; who knew how to diſtin-
" guiſh between writing for his own diver-
" ſion, and the entertainment of others;
" and had a better judgment than to thruſt
" any thing abroad, unworthy himſelf or
" his readers."

Yet this collection, as it is, contains many inſtructive, ingenious, and agreeable poems in it. It may be perceived in many of them that he was an humane and hoſpitable, ſociable and pleaſant companion; but too improvident in his Oeconomy; which much embarraſſed and reduced his eſtate. As he was virtuouſly trained, he was free from pride, fraud, and oppreſſion: ſpeaks of his friends, dearly bought, and of his enemies, very movingly, that he had ſhewed charity and compaſſion to thoſe who had none for him; was ſtruggling under the ingratitude of ſuch, whom he had bountifully befriended, and truſted; and *ſueing* to thoſe who had been his *ſuitors*. That, though he had ſtill left all competent or neceſſary accommodations, and wanted not the *ſupports* of life, yet was

he

he denyed the *comforts* of it; being enſnared in bonds, and eternal contention, by his clamorous and mercileſs creditors. Theſe bitter ſenſations and ſufferings, of a generous ſpirit, are too plainly viſible in ſome of his eclogues* and odes; his admired ſtanzas on *retirement*†, to his friend *Walton*, and more eſpecially, thoſe upon *melancholy*, *hope*, *poverty*, &c.‡

There are alſo ſeveral poems in this volume, written to, and upon divers noble and honourable, eminent and memorable perſons, relations and friends; beſides thoſe before mentioned. Such as, his epiſtles to his friend *John Bradſhaw*, Eſq; one of them on his journey to *Staffordſhire*; another on *The great Froſt*, &c.‖ ſeveral to Mr. *Walton*. To the Counteſs of *Cheſterfield*, on the birth of her firſt ſon. On the death of *Thomas* Earl of *Oſſory*; who died in 1680. But whether ſo well rewarded for it, as Mr. *Flatman* was for his elegy thereupon §, who received a preſent, in return of it, from his Lordſhip's father, *James* Duke of *Ormond*,

* See his *Poems*, p. 108, in the character of *Clotten*.

† *Idem*. p. 133.

‡ *Ibid*. 263, 269, 303, &c.

‖ In 1683.

§ In a *Pindaric* ode, *Folio*, 1681; reprinted in the third edition of his *Poems*, 8vo, 1682.

of

of a mourning ring, with a diamond in it, worth an hundred pounds *, I know not. His two poems on Counſellor *Marriot*, the great eater of *Gray*'s Inn. Epitaph on his dear aunt, *Anne Stanhope*; highly in her praiſe. His journey into the *Peak*, to Sir *Aſton Cockaine*; and two more, on his plays. On the death of his dear uncle, Mr. *Radcliffe Stanhope*. To his friend Mr. *Lely*, on his picture of the excellently virtuous lady *Iſabella Thynn*. That eminent artiſt, afterwards knighted, drew alſo the picture of Mr. *Cotton*, as I have heard †; and that it was not only ſometime in the poſſeſſion of Sir *Aſton Cockaine*, at *Aſhburne*, but is alſo ſtill in being. Epitaph on *Annis Robin*, the hermaphrodite, who as our poet ſays, got himſelf with child, firſt of a ſon, and then a daughter. He was called by that nickname, as I have read in other poems and pamphlets of thoſe times, from his ſelling drams of *annis-ſeed water*, about the ſtreets. There are alſo ſome other characteriſtical poems; for which thoſe, who are further curious about them, are hereby referred to the

* *Athen. Oxon.* Vol. II. Col. 825.

† It is very true that Sir *Peter Lely* painted Mr. *Cotton*'s picture; and, through the favour of the proprietor thereof, *Brooke Boothby*, of *Aſhburne* hall, Eſq; we have been enabled to give the print prefixed to the Second Part of this work.

book

book itſelf. The tranſlations are chiefly from *Horace*, *Martial*, *Catullus*, *Auſonius*, *Joannes Secundus*; Sir *Thomas More*, *Buchanan*, and ſeveral *French* Poets, *Italians*, &c. The whole ends with *the battle* of *Yury* in *France*; conſiſting of near an hundred and twenty ſtanzas, of eight lines; with a poem prefixed, to his honoured friend the author, by *Thomas Bancroft*; who tells him, that like a true bred *Stanhope*, he writes in ſtate without running into redundances. *Langbaine*'s ſhort character and diſtinction of him in theſe compoſitions, is, that he was an excellent *Lyrick* Poet; but particularly famous for *burleſque*.

His laſt performance was a tranſlation from the *French*, of *The Memoirs of the Sieur De Pontis*, who ſerved in the *army ſix and fifty years*, under King *Henry* IV. *Lewis* XIII. and *Lewis* XIV. containing many *remarkable paſſages* relating to the *War*, the *Court*, and the *Government* of thoſe Princes, faithfully engliſhed, by *Charles Cotton*, Eſq.* The volume is dedicated by *Bereſford Cotton*, to the Duke of *Ormond*; the ſaid tranſlation having been recommended to, and requeſted of, Mr. *Cotton*, the editor's father,

* Theſe Memoirs appeared not till ſome few years after the tranſlator's death. The *Imprimatur* was granted in *July* 1693; and they were publiſhed in *Folio*, 1694.

by the old Duke, his grace's grandfather. The author was a Captain in the *French* King's guards, and commiſſary general of the *Swiſſe* troops. He paſſed his long life in camp and court, and died in religious retirement *. The editor in his ingenious preface, anticipates and removes two objections. One is, the want of dignity, or high rank in the ſubject of his memoirs; and the other, which we refer to, is the delay of publication. He has ſome ſenſible reflections upon the vulgar error of titles and preferment being thought the only marks or meaſures of merit, which would make undignified, or unſucceſsful virtue, none at all; and ſet up chance, partiality, or a powerful intereſt, as the only ſtandard of judgment. But if true courage and conduct, inviolable fidelity and generous friendſhip, be ſtill characters of any figure, theſe *memoirs* may have the advantage of many written by more pompous writers. Thoſe engagements in life, which are between both extreams, produce directions, more exemplary, applicable, and inſtructive, to the conduct of the generality. That, worth is to be reſpected, wherever we find it; and a noble ſoul is not the leſs, but the more ſo, when it ſhines by its own light, without any of that borrowed luſtre, which is ſo often owing to greatneſs and fortune.

* In the year 1670, and of his age 92.

Beſides

Beſides 'twould be a double hardſhip, that, not only the author's fortunes in life, but his memory after it, ſhould ſuffer for thoſe diſappointments, which were chiefly owing to his virtue and conſtancy, and the ſpiteful reſentments of an arbitrary and intriguing ſtateſman*. To this purpoſe, writes the editor aforeſaid of theſe *memoirs*. 'Tis viſible that the concluſion of them was written by ſome other hand, perhaps an eccleſiaſtic, who might reviſe the whole; but whoever did, 'tis thought he was not altogether ſo correct in the chronology, or candid in ſome of the characters, as might be wiſhed; and though the whole has been aſcribed to others†, it does not ſufficiently appear from undoubted authorities, but the *Sieur de Pontis* was the original author.

This compendious review of thoſe books Mr. *Cotton* compoſed, or tranſlated, which have come to my knowledge, is perhaps copious enough in this place. All that may be needful to add, are, a few circumſtances or events reported to have occurred in the courſe of his life; which being ſuſtained only on the unſteady wings of tradition, or the memories of ſome communicative per-

* Card. *Richlieu.*

† See *Langlet du Freſnoy*'s New *method* of ſtudying *Hiſtory*. Tranſlated by Dr. *Rich. Rawlinſon*, Vol. II. 8*vo*. 1728. p. 257.

ſons, who have converſed with ſeveral aged inhabitants in his neighbourhood, and have not been inſerted in this ſummary account for want of confirmation, and direction in what parts thereof to ſettle them, according to the regular order of time, they are here offered for ſuch admiſſion, when further enquiry and authority ſhall aſcertain their right to the ſame.

And firſt, we ſhould be willing to know what foundation there is for the report that an aunt of Mr. *Cotton*'s was ſo diſobliged at ſome reflection he had made upon her, in his *burleſque* poems, or elſewhere, that it loſt him five hundred pounds *per annum*, which ſhe deſigned to have bequeathed him in her will. That there was any thing ſo diſguſtful in his ſaying Queen *Dido*'s ruff was like Miſs *Kokany's of the Peak*, I cannot apprehend; nor that any diſagreeable application was intended in the repreſentation of that Queen's hanging herſelf; neither do I remember any thing tending to ſuch derogation in his deſcriptive poem of the *Peak*; and yet, I have heard ſuch a report among ſome gentlemen in his neighbourhood, above thirty years paſt, and the like from others in *London* ſince. 'Tis ſaid alſo, that his debts, incumbrances, and obligations, brought him for a while, under ſome reſtraint, at one of the compters in this City; and that he

he inſcribed, over his apartment therein, a *diſtich*, importing, that it was a place where none could thrive; a *grave* for the *living*, and an *hell* upon *earth*. If he was any time ſo confined, and the thoughts of his condition any where exhaled in verſe, it might perhaps be in ſome of thoſe poems of complaint before referred to; and ſome have believed him to be the witty author of *The Counter-ſcuffle*. That poem was printed twenty years before his death, and appears in a later edition to have been written by another hand *, much in the humour of *Samuel Speed*'s *King's Bench Scuffle*, or ſome among the poems of Captain *Alexander Radcliffe* of *Gray's-Inn*. And whether he was under any confinement before, or after his marriage with his ſecond lady, we need not now be kept in ſuſpence to diſcuſs, unleſs I had propoſed a larger plan for this little narrative; but it is further reported, that this lady had a jointure of fifteen hundred pounds a year, which ſhe ſhared with him, and out of which the burden of ſome engagements might poſſibly be lightned. As for Mr. *Beresford Cotton*, who ſet forth his father's tranſlation of the memoirs laſt mentioned, it is alſo ſaid, that he had a company of foot given him, in the

* *The Counter-ſcuffle*; to which is added, *The Counter Rat*. by *R. S.* 4*to.* 1680, 1693. See alſo *Dryden*'s Miſcellanies.

Earl of *Derby*'s new-raiſed regiment, in King *William*'s wars; and that one of Mr. *Charles Cotton*'s daughters was married to that eminent divine Dr. *George Stanhope*, dean of *Canterbury*. There is no Will of his entered in the prerogative office, at *Doctor's Commons*; but we find he died in the pariſh of St. *James*'s *Weſtminſter*, and in the year before the Revolution. A copy of the Adminiſtration Act is as follows; " Adminiſtra-
" tion of his goods was granted the 12th
" of *September* 1687, to *Elizabeth Bud-*
" *worth*, his principal creditrix: the Ho-
" nourable *Mary*, Counteſs Dowager of
" *Ardglas*, his widow; *Beresford Cotton*,
" Eſq; *Olive Cotton*, *Catherine Cotton*, *Jane*
" *Cotton*, and *Mary Cotton*, his natural and
" lawful children, firſt renouncing."

More might have been added to this ſuperficial eſſay; but it may be more eligible that it ſhould be aſked, why ſo ſcanty, than why ſuperfluous? and, in a little repaſt, intended only for refreſhment, it may be better that a gueſt ſhould riſe with an appetite, than a ſurfeit. Therefore I reſt,

Sir, Your's, *&c.*

W. O.

To

To my moſt Worthy

FATHER * and FRIEND,

Mr. *IZAAK WALTON*,

The ELDER.

SIR,

BEING you were pleaſed, ſome years paſt, to grant me your free leave to do what I have here attempted; and obſerving you never retract any promiſe, when made in

* The reader will ſee the reaſon why *Cotton* calls *Walton* his father, in a ſubſequent note.

favour even of your meaneſt friends, I accordingly expect to ſee theſe following particular directions for the taking of a Trout, to wait upon your better and more general rules for all ſorts of Angling: and, though mine be neither ſo perfect, ſo well digeſted, nor indeed ſo handſomely coucht, as they might have been, in ſo long a time as ſince your leave was granted; yet I dare affirm them to be generally true: and they had appeared too in ſomething a neater dreſs, but that I was ſurprized with the ſuddain news of a ſuddain new edition of your *Compleat Angler*; ſo that, having but a little more than ten days time to turn me in, and rub up my memory; for, in truth, I

have

have not, in all this long time, though I have often thought on't, and almoſt as often reſolved to go preſently about it; I was forc't upon the inſtant to ſcribble what I here preſent you: which I have alſo endeavoured to accommodate to your own method. And, if mine be clear enough for the honeſt brothers of the Angle readily to underſtand, which is the only thing I aim at, then I have my end, and ſhall need to make no further apology; a writing of this kind not requiring, if I were maſter of any ſuch thing, any eloquence to ſet it off, or recommend it: ſo that if you, in your better judgment, or kindneſs rather, can allow it paſſable, for a thing of this nature, you will

then

then do me honour if the *Cypher*, fixt and carved in the front of my little fiſhing-houſe, may be here explained: and to permit me to attend you in publick, who, in private, have ever been, am, and ever reſolve to be,

SIR,

Your moſt affectionate Son,

Beriſford, 10th of *March*, 167⅝. *And Servant,*

Charles Cotton.

TO

TO

My most HONOURED FRIEND,

Charles Cotton, *Esq*;

SIR,

YOU now see I have returned you your very pleasant and useful discourse of The Art of Fly-fishing, *printed just as it was sent me: for I have been so obedient to your desires, as to endure all the praises you have ventured to fix upon me in it. And, when I have thankt you for them, as the effects of an undissembled love; then, let me tell you, Sir, that I will really endeavour to live up to the character you have given of me, if there were no other reason; yet for this alone, that you, that love me so well, and always think what you speak, may not, for my sake, suffer by a mistake in your judgment.*

And, Sir, I have ventured to fill a part of your margin, by way of paraphrase, for the reader's

reader's clearer understanding the situation, both of your Fishing-house, and the pleasantness of that you dwell in. And I have ventured also to give him a copy of verses that you were pleased to send me, now some years past; in which he may see a good picture of both; and so much of your own mind too, as will make any reader, that is blest with a generous soul, to love you the better. I confess, that for doing this you may justly judge me too bold; if you do, I will say so too; and so far commute for my offence, that, though I be more than a hundred miles from you, and in the eighty third year of my age; yet I will forget both, and next month begin a pilgrimage to beg your pardon; for I would die in your favour; and till then will live,

London,
April 29th, 1676.

SIR,

Your most affectionate

Father and Friend,

Izaak Walton.

THE

THE RETIREMENT.

STANZES IRREGULIERS TO Mr. *IZAAK WALTON.*

I.

Farewell thou buſie World, and may
We never meet again:
Here I can eat, and ſleep, and pray,
And do more good, in one ſhort day,
Than he who his whole age out wears
Upon the moſt conſpicuous theaters,
Where nought but vanity and vice appears.

II.

Good God! how ſweet are all things here!
How beautiful the fields appear!
How cleanly do we feed and lye!
Lord! what good hours do we keep!
How quietly we ſleep!
What peace! what unanimity!
How innocent from the lewd faſhion,
Is all our buſineſs, all our recreation!

Ob

III.

Oh, how happy here's our leasure!
Oh, how innocent our pleasure!
Oh, ye valleys, Oh, ye mountains!
Oh, ye groves, and chrystal fountains,
How I love at liberty,
By turns, to come and visit ye!

IV.

Dear solitude, the soul's best friend,
That man acquainted with himself dost make,
And, all his maker's wonders to intend,
With thee, I here converse at will,
And would be glad to do so still,
For, it is thou alone, that keep'st the soul awake,

V.

How calm, and quiet a delight,
Is it, alone
To read, and meditate, and write;
By none offended, and, offending none?
To walk, ride, sit, or sleep at one's own ease!
And, pleasing a man's self, none other to displease.

VI.

Oh my beloved nymph, fair Dove;
Princess of rivers! how I love
Upon thy flow'ry banks to lye,
And view thy silver stream,
When gilded by a summer's beam!
And in it, all thy wanton fry
Playing at liberty:
And, with my Angle upon them
The all of treachery
I ever learnt, industriously to try.

Such

VII.

Such streams, Rome's *yellow* Tyber *cannot show,*
The Iberian Tagus *or Ligurian* Po;
The Maese, *the* Danube, *and the* Rhine,
Are puddle water all, compar'd with thine:
And Loyre's *pure streams yet too polluted are*
With thine much purer to compare;
The rapid Garonne, *and the winding* Seine,
Are both too mean,
Beloved Dove, *with thee*
To vie priority;
Nay, Tame *and* Isis, *when conjoyn'd submit,*
And lay their trophies at thy silver feet.

VIII.

Oh my beloved Rocks that rise
To cave the earth and brave the skies:
From some aspiring mountain's crown,
How dearly do I love,
Giddy with pleasure, to look down.
And from the vales, to view the noble heights above!
Oh my beloved caves! from dog-star's heat;
And all anxieties, my life retreat:
What safety, privacy, what true delight,
In th' artificial night,
Your gloomy entrails make,
Have I taken, do I take!
How oft when grief has made me fly
To hide me from society,
Ev'n of my dearest friends, have I
In your recesses friendly shade,
All my sorrows open laid.
And, my most secret vales, entrusted to your privacy!

Lord!

IX.

Lord! would men let me alone;
What an over happy one
Should I think my ſelf to be
Might I in this deſart place,
Which moſt men in diſcourſe diſgrace,
Live but undiſturb'd and free!
Here, in this deſpis'd receſs
Would I, maugre winter's cold,
And the Summer's worſt exceſs,
Try, to live out to ſixty full years old!
And, all the while
Without an envious eye,
On any thriving under fortune's ſmile,
Contented live, and then contented dye.

C. C.

THE COMPLETE ANGLER:

OR, THE Contemplative Man's Recreation.

PART II. *

CHAP. I.

PISCATOR JUNIOR, and VIATOR.

PISCATOR.

YOU are happily overtaken, Sir; may a man be so bold as to enquire how far you travel this way?

Viator. Yes sure, Sir, very freely; though it be a question I cannot very well resolve you; as not knowing myself how far it is to *Ashborn*, where I intend to-night to take up my inn.

Piscat.

* The reader will find this Second Part written in a more correct style than that of *Walton*; which, though it has

Piſcat. Why then, Sir, ſeeing I perceive you to be a ſtranger in theſe parts, I ſhall take upon me to inform you, that from the town you laſt came through, called *Brelsford* *, it is five miles; and you are not yet above half a mile on this ſide.

Viat. So much! I was told it was but ten miles from *Derby*, and, methinks, I have rode almoſt ſo far already.

Piſcat. O, Sir, find no fault with large meaſure of good Land, which *Derbyſhire* abounds in, as much as moſt counties of *England*.

Viat. It may be ſo; and good land I confeſs, affords a pleaſant proſpect: but, by your good leave, Sir, large meaſure of foul way is not altogether ſo acceptable.

Piſcat. True, Sir, but the foul way ſerves to juſtifie the fertility of the ſoil, according to the proverb; "There is good land where there is "foul way;" and is of good uſe to inform you of the riches of the country you are come into, and of its continual travel and traffick to the country town you came from; which is alſo very obſervable by the fulneſs of its road, and the loaden horſes you meet every where upon the way.

Viat. Well, Sir, I will be content to think as well of your country as you would deſire; and I ſhall have a great deal of reaſon both to think and

its beauties, it muſt be confeſs'd, is frequently looſe, and ſometimes ungrammatical. An attempt to correct it, would have led the editor, by inſenſible degrees, to forget that his author was a plain, artleſs, unaffected writer, and to have impoſed upon his readers that for *Walton*'s, which he would not have known were he living to read it.

* *Bralesford. Spelman's Villare.*

to ſpeak very well of you, if I may obtain the happineſs of your company to the forementioned place, provided your affairs lead you that way, and that they will permit you to ſlack your pace, out of complacency to a traveller utterly a ſtranger in theſe parts, and who am ſtill to wander further out of my own knowledge.

Piſcat. Sir, you invite me to my own advantage, and I am ready to attend you; my way lying through that town; but my buſineſs, that is, my home, ſome miles beyond it: however, I ſhall have time enough to lodge you in your quarters, and afterwards to perform my own journey. In the mean time, may I be ſo bold as to enquire the end of your journey?

Viat. 'Tis into *Lancaſhire*, Sir, and about ſome buſineſs of concern to a near relation of mine: for I aſſure you, I do not uſe to take ſo long journeys, as from *Eſſex*, upon the ſingle account of pleaſure.

Piſcat. From thence, Sir! I do not then wonder you ſhould appear diſſatisfied with the length of the miles, and the foulneſs of the way: though I am ſorry you ſhould begin to quarrel with them ſo ſoon; for, believe me, Sir, you will find the miles much longer, and the way much worſe, before you come to your journey's end.

Viat. Why truly, Sir, for that I am prepared to expect the worſt; but methinks the way is mended ſince I had the good fortune to fall into your good company.

Piſcat. You are not obliged to my company for that: but becauſe you are already paſt the worſt, and the greateſt part of your way to your lodging.

Viat. I am very glad to hear it, both for the eaſe of myſelf and my horſe; but eſpecially becauſe I may then expect a freer enjoyment of your converſation; though the ſhortneſs of the way will, I fear, make me loſe it the ſooner.

Piſcat. That, Sir, is not worth your care; and I am ſure you deſerve much better, for being content with ſo ill company: but we have already talked away two miles of your journey; for, from the brook before us, that runs at the foot of this ſandy hill, you have but three miles to *Aſhborn*.

Viat. I meet every where in this country with theſe little brooks, and they look as if they were full of fiſh; have they not Trouts in them?

Piſcat. That is a queſtion which is to be excuſed in a ſtranger, as you are; otherwiſe, give me leave to tell you, it would ſeem a kind of affront to our country, to make a doubt of what we pretend to be famous for, next, if not before, our malt, wool, lead, and coal; for you are to underſtand, that we think we have as many fine rivers, rivulets and brooks, as any country whatever; and they are all full of Trouts, and ſome of them the beſt, it is ſaid, by many degrees in *England*.

Viat. I was firſt, Sir, in love with you, and now ſhall be ſo enamoured of your country by this account you give me of it, as to wiſh myſelf a *Derbyſhire* man, or at leaſt that I might live in it: for you muſt know I am a pretender to the Angle, and, doubtleſs, a Trout affords the moſt pleaſure to the Angler, of any ſort of fiſh whatever; and the beſt Trouts, muſt needs make the beſt ſport: but this brook, and ſome others

I have met with upon this way, are too full of wood for that recreation.

Piſcat. This, Sir! why this, and ſeveral others like it, which you have paſt, and ſome that you are like to paſs, have ſcarce any name amongſt us: but we can ſhew you as fine rivers, and as clear from wood, or any other encumbrance to hinder an Angler, as any you ever ſaw; and for clear, beautiful ſtreams, *Hantſhire* itſelf, by Mr. *Izaak Walton*'s good leave, can ſhew none ſuch; nor I think any country in *Europe*.

Viat. You go far, Sir, in the praiſe of your country rivers, and I perceive have read Mr. *Walton*'s *Compleat Angler*, by your naming of *Hantſhire*; and I pray what is your opinion of that book?

Piſcat. My opinion of Mr. *Walton*'s book is the ſame with every man's that underſtands any thing of the art of Angling, that it is an excellent good one, and that the forementioned gentleman underſtands as much of fiſh, and fiſhing, as any man living: but I muſt tell you further, that I have the happineſs to know his perſon, and to be intimately acquainted with him, and in him to know the worthieſt man, and to enjoy the beſt, and the trueſt friend any man ever had: nay, I ſhall yet acquaint you further, that he gives me leave to call him father, and I hope is not yet aſhamed to own me for his adopted ſon *.

Viat.

* It was a conſtant practice with thoſe who had made diſcoveries in Chemiſtry, and judicial Aſtrology, to adopt favourite perſons for their ſons, to whom they imparted their ſecrets. *Aſhmole*, in his Diary, p. 25. ſays, "Mr. *Back-*

Viat. In earneſt, Sir, I am raviſhed to meet with a friend of Mr. *Izaak Walton*'s, and one that does him ſo much right in ſo good and true a character; for I muſt boaſt to you, that I have the good fortune to know him too, and came acquainted with him much after the ſame manner I do with you; that he was my maſter who firſt taught me to love Angling, and then to become an Angler; and to be plain with you, I am the very man deciphered in his book under the name of *Venator*; for I was wholly addicted to the chace, till he taught me as good, a more quiet, innocent, and leſs dangerous diverſion.

Piſcat. Sir, I think myſelf happy in your acquaintance, and before we part ſhall entreat leave to embrace you; you have ſaid enough to recommend you to my beſt opinion; for my father *Walton* will be ſeen twice in no man's company he does not like; and likes none but ſuch as he believes to be very honeſt men; which is one of the beſt arguments, or at leaſt of the beſt teſtimonies I have, that I either am, or that he thinks me, one of thoſe, ſeeing I have not yet found him weary of me.

Viat. You ſpeak like a true friend, and in doing ſo render yourſelf worthy of his friend-

" *houſe* told me, I muſt now needs be his ſon, becauſe he " had communicated ſo many ſecrets to me." And, a little after, p. 27. " My father, *Backhouſe*, lying ſick in *Fleet-* " *Street*, told me, in ſyllables, the true matter of the Philo- " ſopher's Stone, which he bequeathed to me as a legacy."

And, in imitation of this practice, *Ben Johnſon* had ſeveral adopted ſons, to the number of twelve or fourteen; among whom were, *Cartwright*, *Randolph*, and *Alexander Brome*; and, it ſhould ſeem by the text, that *Walton* followed it, in adopting *Cotton* for his ſon.

ſhip.

ſhip. May I be ſo bold as to aſk your name?

Piſcat. Yes ſurely, Sir, and if you pleaſe a much nicer queſtion, my name is——and I intend to ſtay long enough in your company, if I find you do not diſlike mine, to aſk your's too. In the mean time, becauſe we are now almoſt at *Aſhborn*, I ſhall freely, and bluntly tell you, that I am a brother of the Angle too, and, peradventure, can give you ſome inſtructions how to angle for a Trout in a clear river, that my father *Walton* himſelf will not diſapprove, though he did either purpoſely omit, or did not remember them, when you and he ſat diſcourſing under the Sycamore tree *. And being you have already told me whither your journey is intended, and that I am better acquainted with the country than you are, I will heartily, and earneſtly entreat, you will not think of ſtaying at this town; but go on with me ſix miles further, to my houſe, where you ſhall be extreamly welcome; it is directly in your way; we have day enough to perform our journey, and as you like your entertainment, you may there repoſe yourſelf a day or two, or as many more as your occaſions will permit, to recompence the trouble of ſo much a longer journey.

Viat. Sir, you ſurpriſe me with ſo friendly an invitation upon ſo ſhort acquaintance: but how advantageous ſoever it would be to me, and that my haſte, perhaps, is not ſo great, but it might diſpenſe with ſuch a divertiſement as I promiſe myſelf in your company; yet I cannot, in modeſty, accept your offer, and muſt therefore beg your pardon: I could otherwiſe, I confeſs, be glad to wait upon you, if upon no other ac-

* See Part I. Page 105.

count but to talk of Mr. *Izaak Walton*, and to receive thoſe inſtructons you ſay you are able to give me for the deceiving a Trout; in which art I will not deny, but that I have an ambition to be one of the greateſt deceivers; though I cannot forbear freely to tell you, that I think it hard to ſay much more than has been read to me upon that ſubject.

Piſcat. Well, Sir, I grant that too; but you muſt know that the variety of rivers require different ways of Angling: however, you ſhall have the beſt rules I am able to give, and I will tell you nothing I have not made myſelf as certain of, as any man can be in thirty years experience, for ſo long I have been a dabler in that art, and that if you pleaſe to ſtay a few days, you ſhall in a very great meaſure ſee made good to you. But of that hereafter; and now, Sir, if I am not miſtaken, I have half overcome you; and that I may wholly conquer that modeſty of your's, I will take upon me to be ſo familiar as to ſay, you muſt accept my invitation; which, that you may the more eaſily be perſwaded to do, I will tell you that my houſe ſtands upon the margin of one of the fineſt rivers for Trouts and Grayling in *England*; that I have lately built a little fiſhing houſe upon it, dedicated to Anglers, over the door of which you will ſee the two firſt letters of my father *Walton*'s name and mine twiſted in Cypher *; that you ſhall lye in the ſame bed he has ſometimes been contented with, and have ſuch country entertainment as my friends ſometimes accept; and be as welcome too as the beſt friend of them all.

* *As in the Title page.*

Viat.

Viat. No doubt, Sir, but my maſter *Walton* found good reaſon to be ſatisfied with his entertainment in your houſe; for you who are ſo friendly to a meer ſtranger, who deſerves ſo little, muſt needs be exceeding kind and free to him who deſerves ſo much.

Piſcat. Believe me, no; and ſuch as are intimately acquainted with that gentleman, know him to be a man, who will not endure to be treated like a ſtranger. So that his acceptation of my poor entertainments, has ever been a pure effect of his own humility and good nature, and nothing elſe. But Sir, we are now going down the *Spittle Hill* into the town; and therefore let me importune you ſuddainly to reſolve, and moſt earneſtly not to deny me.

Viat. In truth, Sir, I am ſo overcome by your bounty, that I find I cannot, but muſt render myſelf wholly to be diſpoſed by you.

Piſcat. Why that's heartily and kindly ſpoken, and I as heartily thank you; and being you have abandoned yourſelf to my conduct, we will only call and drink a glaſs on horſeback at the *Talbot*, and away.

Viat. I attend you; but what pretty river is this, that runs under this ſtone bridge? has it a name?

Piſcat. Yes, 'tis called *Henmore*; and has in it both Trout, and Grayling; but you will meet with one or two better anon. And ſo ſoon as we are paſt through the town, I will endeavour, by ſuch diſcourſe as beſt likes you, to paſs away the time till you come to your ill quarters.

Viat. We can talk of nothing with which I ſhall be more delighted than of Rivers and Angling.

Piſcat,

Piſcat. Let thoſe be the ſubjects then; but we are now come to the *Tallot*; What will you drink, Sir, ale, or wine?

Viat. Nay, I am for the country liquor, *Derbyſhire* ale, if you pleaſe; for a man ſhould not, methinks, come from *London* to drink wine in the *Peak*.

Piſcat. You are in the right; and yet let me tell you, you may drink worſe *French* wine in many taverns in *London*, than they have ſometimes at this houſe. What hoe! bring us a flaggon of your beſt ale; and now, Sir, my ſervice to you, a good health to the honeſt Gentleman you know of, and you are welcome into the *Peak*.

Viat. I thank you, Sir, and preſent you my ſervice again, and to all the honeſt Brothers of the Angle.

Piſcat. I'll pledge you, Sir: ſo, there's for your ale, and farewell. Come, Sir, let us be going; for the Sun grows low, and I would have you look about you as you ride; for you will ſee an odd country, and ſights that will ſeem ſtrange to you.

CHAP. II.

PISCATOR.

SO, Sir, now we have got to the top of the hill out of town, look about you, and tell me how you like the country.

Viat Bleſs me! what mountains are here! are we not in *Wales?*

Piſcat.

Piſcat. No, but in almoſt as mountainous a country; and yet theſe hills, though high, bleak, and craggy, breed and feed good Beef and Mutton, above ground, and afford good ſtore of Lead within.

Viat. They had need of all thoſe commodities to make amends for the ill landſchape: but I hope our way does not lye over any of theſe; for I dread a precipice.

Piſcat. Believe me, but it does, and down one eſpecially, that will appear a little terrible to a ſtranger: though the way is paſſable enough, and ſo paſſable, that we who are natives of theſe mountains, and acquainted with them, diſdain to alight.

Viat. I hope though, that a foreigner is privileged to uſe his own diſcretion, and that I may have the liberty to entruſt my neck to the fidelity of my own feet, rather than to thoſe of my Horſe; for I have no more at home.

Piſcat. 'Twere hard elſe. But in the mean time I think 'twere beſt, while this way is pretty even, to mend our pace, that we may be paſt that hill I ſpeak of, to the end your apprehenſion may not be doubled for want of light to diſcern the eaſineſs of the deſcent.

Viat. I am willing to put forward as faſt as my beaſt will give me leave; though I fear nothing in your company. But what pretty river is this we are going into?

Piſcat. Why this, Sir, is called *Bently* brook, and is full of very good Trout and Grayling; but ſo encumbered with wood in many places, as is troubleſom to an Angler.

Viat.

Viat. Here are the prettieſt rivers, and the moſt of them in this country that ever I ſaw; do you know how many you have in the country?

Piſcat. I know them all, and they were not hard to reckon, were it worth the trouble; but the moſt conſiderable of them I will preſently name you. And to begin where we now are; for you muſt know we are now upon the very ſkirts of *Derbyſhire*; we have firſt the river *Dove*, that we ſhall come to by and by, which divides the two counties of *Derby* and *Stafford*, for many miles together; and is ſo call'd from the ſwiftneſs of its current, and that ſwiftneſs occaſioned by the declivity of its courſe, and by being ſo ſtrained in that courſe betwixt the rocks; by which, and thoſe very high ones, it is hereabout, for four or five miles, confined into a very narrow ſtream. A river that from a contemptible fountain, which I can cover with my hat, by the confluence of other rivers, rivulets, brooks, and rills, is ſwelled, before it falls into *Trent*, a little below *Egginton*, where it loſes the name, to ſuch a breadth and depth, as to be in moſt places navigable, were not the paſſage frequently interrupted with fords and weires, and has as fertile banks as any river in *England*, none excepted. And this river, from its head, for a mile or two, is a black water, as all the reſt of the *Derbyſhire* rivers of note originally are, for they all ſpring from the moſſes, but is in a few miles travel, ſo clarified by the addition of ſeveral clear, and very great ſprings, bigger than itſelf, which guſh out of the Limeſtone rocks, that before it comes to my houſe, which is but ſix or ſeven miles from its ſource;

you

you will find it one of the pureſt chryſtalline ſtreams you have ſeen.

Viat. Does *Trent* ſpring in theſe parts?

Piſcat. Yes, in theſe parts; not in this country, but ſomewhere towards the upper end of *Staffordſhire*, I think not far from a place called *Trentham*, and thence runs down not far from *Stafford* to *Wolſly* bridge, and waſhing the ſkirts and purlews of the foreſt of *Needwood*, runs down to *Burton* in the ſame county; thence it comes into this where we now are, and running by *Swarkſton* and *Dunnington*, receives *Derwent* at *Wildon*, and ſo to *Nottingham*, thence to *Newark*, and by *Gainſborough* to *Kingſton* upon *Hull*, where it takes the name of *Humber*, and thence falls into the Sea; but that the map will beſt inform you.

Viat. Know you whence this river *Trent* derives its name?

Piſcat. No, indeed, and yet I have heard it often diſcourſt upon, when ſome have given its denomination from the forenamed *Trentham*; though that ſeems rather a derivative from it; others have ſaid 'tis ſo call'd from thirty rivers that fall into it, and there loſe their names; which cannot be neither, becauſe it carries that name from its very fountain, before any other rivers fall into it; others derive it from thirty ſeveral ſorts of fiſh that breed there; and that is the moſt likely derivation: But be it how it will, it is doubtleſs one of the fineſt rivers in the world, and the moſt abounding with excellent Salmon, and all ſorts of delicate fiſh.

Viat. Pardon me, Sir, for tempting you into this digreſſion, and then proceed to your other rivers;

rivers; for I am mightily delighted with this diſcourſe.

Piſcat. It was no interruption, but a very ſeaſonable queſtion; for *Trent* is not only one of our *Derbyſhire* rivers, but the chief of them, and into which all the reſt pay the tribute of their names; which I had, perhaps, forgot to inſiſt upon, being got to the other end of the county, had you not awoke my memory. But I will now proceed; and the next river of note, for I will take them as they lye Eaſtward from us, is the river *Wye*; I ſay of note, for we have two leſſer betwixt us and it, namely, *Lathkin* and *Bradford*; of which *Lathkin* is, by many degrees, the pureſt and moſt tranſparent ſtream that I ever yet ſaw, either at home or abroad; and breeds, 'tis ſaid, the reddeſt, and the beſt Trouts in *England*; but neither of theſe are to be reputed rivers, being no better than great ſprings. The river *Wye* then has its ſource near unto *Buxton*, a town ſome ten miles from hence, famous for a warm bath, and which you are to ride through in your way to *Mancheſter*, a black water too at the fountain; but by the ſame reaſon with *Dove*, becomes very ſoon a moſt delicate clear river, and breeds admirable Trout and Grayling, reputed by thoſe, who, by living upon its banks, are partial to it, the beſt of any; and this running down by *Aſhford*, *Bakewell* and *Hadden*, at a town a little lower, call'd *Roweſley*, falls into *Derwent*, and there loſes its name *. The next in order is *Derwent*, a black water

* By this it appears that there are two rivers in *England* that bear the name of *Wye*; the former *Wye*, occaſionally men-

water too, and that not only from its fountain, but quite through its progreſs, not having theſe chryſtal ſprings to waſh and cleanſe it, which the two forementioned have; but abounds with Trout and Grayling, ſuch as they are, towards its ſource, and with Salmon below; and this river, from the upper and utmoſt part of this county, where it ſprings, taking its courſe by *Chatſworth*, *Darley Matlock*, *Derby*, *Burrow-Aſh*, and *Awberſon*, falls into *Trent* at a place call'd *Wildon*, and there loſes its name. The Eaſt ſide of this county of *Derby* is bounded by little inconſiderable rivers, as *Awber*, *Eroways*, and the like, ſcarce worth naming, but Trouty too; and further we are not to enquire. But, Sir, I have carried you, as a man may ſay, by water, till we are now come to the deſcent of the formidable hill I told you of, at the foot of which runs the river *Dove*, which I cannot but love above all the reſt; and therefore prepare yourſelf to be a little frighted.

Viat. Sir, I ſee you would fortifie me, that I ſhould not ſhame myſelf; but I dare follow

mentioned, p. 143, 149, 153, and elſewhere in this work, has, as well as the *Severn*, its head in the *Plinlimmon* hills, on the borders of *Montgomery* and *Cardiganſhires*; from whence, as its *Latin* name, *Vaga*, imports, wandering through part of *Brecknockſhire*, it, near the *Hay*, enters *Herefordſhire*, and, at *Mordiford*, within four miles of *Hereford*, receives the *Lug*; from thence, paſſing on to *Roſs*, it enters *Monmouthſhire*, and falls into the *Severn* below *Chepſtow*.

It abounds with that ſmall ſpecies of fiſh called *Laſt-ſpring*; for which ſee page 153; and alſo with Grayling.

And here it may be neceſſary to remark, that the names of *Avon*, *Ouſe*, *Stoure*, and ſome others, are common to many rivers in *England*, as that of *Dulas* is to numbers in *Wales*. See notes on the *Polyolbion*, ſong the ſixth.

where

where you pleaſe to lead me, and I ſee no danger yet; for the deſcent, methinks, is thus far green, even, and eaſy.

Piſcat. You will like it worſe preſently, when you come to the brow of the hill; and now we are there, What think you?

Viat. What do I think? Why I think it the ſtrangeſt place that ever, ſure, men and horſes went down; and that, if there be any ſafety at all, the ſafeſt way is to alight.

Piſcat. I think ſo too for you, who are mounted upon a beaſt not acquainted with theſe ſlippery ſtones; and though I frequently ride down, I will alight too to bear you company, and to lead you the way, and, if you pleaſe, my man ſhall lead your Horſe.

Viat. Marry, Sir, and thank you too; for I am afraid I ſhall have enough to do to look to myſelf; and with my horſe in my hand ſhould be in a double fear, both of breaking my neck, and my horſe's falling on me; for it is as ſteep as a penthouſe.

Piſcat. To look down from hence it appears ſo, I confeſs; but the path winds and turns, and will not be found ſo troubleſom.

Viat. Would I were well down though! Hoiſt thee! there's one fair ſcape! theſe ſtones are ſo ſlippery I cannot ſtand! yet again! I think I were beſt lay my heels in my neck, and tumble down.

Piſcat. If you think your heels will defend your neck, that is the way to be ſoon at the bottom; but give me your hand at this broad ſtone, and then the worſt is paſt.

Viat.

Viat. I thank you, Sir, I am now paſt it, I can go myſelf. What's here, the ſign of a Bridg? Do you uſe to travel with wheel-barrows in this country?

Piſcat. Not that I ever ſaw, Sir, Why do you aſk that queſtion?

Viat. Becauſe this Bridg certainly was made for nothing elſe; why a mouſe can hardly go over it: 'Tis not two fingers broad.

Piſcat. You are pleaſant, and I am glad to ſee you ſo: but I have rid over the Bridg many a dark night.

Viat. Why according to the *French* proverb, and 'tis a good one among a great many of worſe ſenſe and ſound that language abounds in, *Ce que Dieu garde, eſt bien gardé.* They whom God takes care of are in ſafe protection: but, let me tell you, I would not rid over it for a thouſand pounds, nor fall off it or two; and yet I think I dare venture on foot, though if you were not by to laugh at me, I ſhould do it on all four.

Piſcat. Well Sir, your mirth becomes you, and I am glad to ſee you ſafe over, and now you are welcome into *Staffordſhire.*

Viat. How, *Staffordſhire!* What, do I there trow? there is not a word of *Staffordſhire* in all my direction.

Piſcat. You ſee you are betrayed into it; but it ſhall be in order to ſomething that will make amends; and 'tis but an ill mile or two out of your way.

Viat. I believe all things, Sir, and doubt nothing. Is this your beloved river *Dove.* 'Tis clear, and ſwift indeed, but a very little one.

Piſcat. You ſee it here at the worſt; we ſhall come to it anon again after two miles riding, and ſo near as to lye upon the very banks.

Viat. Would we were there once; but I hope we have no more of theſe *Alps* to paſs over.

Piſcat. No, no, Sir, only this aſcent before you, which you ſee is not very uneaſy, and then you will no more quarrel with your way.

Viat. Well, if ever I come to *London*, of which many a man there, if he were in my place would make a queſtion; I will ſit down and write my Travels, and, like *Tom Coriate*, print them at my own charge *. Pray what do you call this hill we come down? *Piſcat.*

* *Tom Coriate* lived in the reign of King *James* the firſt; and, as *Wood* calls him, was the *whetſtone of all the wits of that age*; and indeed, the alluſions to him, and to the ſingular oddneſs of his character, are numberleſs. He travelled almoſt over *Europe* on foot, and in that tour walked 900 miles with one pair of ſhoes, which he got mended at *Zurich*. Afterwards he viſited *Turky*, *Perſia*, and the Great *Mogul*'s dominions, travelling in ſo frugal a manner, that, as he tells his mother, in a letter to her in his ten months travels, between *Aleppo* and the *Mogul*'s court, he ſpent but *Three pounds Sterling*, living reaſonably well for about *Twopence Sterling* a day. He was a redoubted champion for the *Chriſtian* religion, againſt the *Mahometans* and *Pagans*; in the defence whereof he ſometimes riſqued his life. In *Turky*, when a Prieſt, as the cuſtom is, was proclaiming from a moſque-tower that *Mahomet* was a true Prophet; *Tom*, in the fury of his zeal, and in the face of the whole city, told the Prieſt *he lyed*, and *that his Prophet was an impoſtor:* and, at a city called *Multan*, in the *Eaſt Indies*, he, in public, made a ſet ſpeech to a *Mahometan*, who had called him *Giaur*, or *Infidel*, which he began thus: "*But, I pray* "*thee, tell me, thou* Mahometan, *doſt thou in ſadneſs call me* "Giaur? *That I do*, quoth he: *Then*, quoth I, *in very ſo-* "*ber ſadneſs I retort that ſhameful word in thy throat, and* "*tell thee plainly, that I am a* Muſulman, *and thou art*

"*a*

Piſcat. We call it *Hanſon Toot.*

Viat. Why, farewell *Hanſon Toot*, I'll no more on thee; I'll go twenty miles about firſt: Puh, I ſweat, that my ſhirt ſticks to my back.

Piſcat. Come, Sir, now we are up the hill, and now how do you?

Viat. Why very well, I humbly thank you, Sir, and warm enough, I aſſure you. What have we here, a Church! As I'm an honeſt man a very pretty Church! Have you Churches in this country, Sir?

Piſcat. You ſee we have: but had you ſeen none, why ſhould you make that doubt, Sir?

Viat. Why, if you will not be angry, I'll tell you I thought myſelf a ſtage or two beyond *Chriſtendom.*

Piſcat. Come, come, we'll reconcile you to our country before we part with you; if ſhewing you good ſport with Angling will do it.

Viat. My reſpect to you, and that together may do much, Sir; otherwiſe, to be plain with you, I do not find myſelf much inclined that way.

" *a* Giaur." He concludes thus: " *Go to then, thou falſe* " *believer, ſince by thy injurious imputation laid on me, in that* " *thou calledſt me* Giaur, *thou haſt provoked me to ſpeak thus.* " *I pray thee, let this mine anſwer be a warning for thee not* " *to ſcandalize me in the like manner any more; for the* Chri- " ſtian *religion, which, I profeſſe, is ſo deare and tender unto* " *mee, that neither thou, nor any other* Mahometan, *ſhall,* " *ſcot-free, call me* Giaur, *but that I ſhall quit you with an* " *anſwer much to the wonder of thoſe* Mahometans." *Dixi.*

He died of the flux, occaſioned by drinking *Sack* at *Surat* in 1617; having publiſhed his travels in a *Quarto* volume, which he called his *Crudities*; and to this circumſtance the paſſage in the text is a manifeſt alluſion. See *Athen. Oxon.* Vol. I. Col. 422. *Purchaſe*'s Pilgrim. Part I. Book 4. Chap. 17. *Coriate*'s letter from the court of the Great *Mogul.* *Quarto.* 1616.

Piſcat. Well, Sir, your raillery upon our mountains has brought us almoſt home; and look you where the ſame river of *Dove* has again met us to bid you welcome, and to invite you to a diſh of Trouts to-morrow.

Viat. Is this the ſame we ſaw at the foot of *Penmen-Maure?* It is much a finer river here

Piſcat. It will appear yet much finer to-morrow. But look you, Sir, here appears the houſe, that is now like to be your Inn, for want of a better.

Viat. It appears on a ſuddain, but not before 'twas looked for, it ſtands prettily, and here's wood about it too, but ſo young, as appears to be of your own planting.

Piſcat. It is ſo, will it pleaſe you to alight, Sir; and now permit me after all your pains and dangers to take you in my arms, and to aſſure you, that you are infinitely welcome.

Viat. I thank you, Sir, and am glad with all my heart I am here; for, in down right truth, I am exceeding weary.

Piſcat. You will ſleep ſo much the better; you ſhall preſently have a light ſupper, and to bed. Come, Sirs, lay the cloth, and bring what you have preſently, and let the Gentleman's bed be made ready in the mean time, in my father *Walton*'s chamber; and now, Sir, here is my ſervice to you, and once more welcome.

Viat. I marry, Sir, this glaſs of good ſack has refreſht me, and I'll make as bold with your meat for the trot has got me a good ſtomach.

Piſcat. Come, Sir, fall to then, you ſee my little ſupper is always ready when I come home; and I'll make no ſtranger of you.

Viat.

Viat. That your meal is ſo ſoon ready is a ſign your ſervants know your certain hours, Sir; I confeſs I did not expect it ſo ſoon; but now 'tis here, you ſhall ſee I will make myſelf no ſtranger.

Piſcat. Much good do your heart, and I thank you for that friendly word: and now, Sir, my ſervice to you in a cup of *More-Land*'s ale: for you are now in the *More-Lands*, but within a ſpit, and a ſtride of the peak; fill my friend his glaſs.

Viat. Believe me you have good ale in the *More-Lands*; far better than that at *Aſhborn*.

Piſcat. That it may ſoon be: for *Aſhborn* has, which is a kind of a riddle, always in it the beſt mault, and the worſt ale in *England*. Come, take away, and bring us ſome pipes, and a bottle of ale, and go to your own ſuppers. Are you for this diet, Sir?

Viat. Yes, Sir, I am for one pipe of tobacco; and I perceive yours is very good by the ſmell.

Piſcat. The beſt I can get in *London*, I aſſure you*. But, Sir, now you have thus far complied

* It ſhould ſeem, by what *Walton* ſays Chap. X. that he was a ſmoaker: and the reader ſees, by the paſſage in the text, that *Piſcator*, by whom we are to underſtand *Cotton* himſelf, is ſo curious as to have his tobacco from *London*. But our piſcatory diſciple may do as he pleaſes.

Smoaking, or, as the phraſe was, *Taking tobacco*, was, in Queen *Elizabeth*'s and her ſucceſſor's time, eſteemed the greateſt of all foppery. *Ben Johnſon*, who mortally hated it, has numberleſs ſarcaſms againſt *ſmoaking* and *ſmoakers*; all which are nothing, compared to thoſe contained in that elegant work of our King *James* the firſt, entitaled, *A counter-blaſt to tobacco*. Nor was the ordinary converſation of this ſapient monarch leſs fraught with cogent reaſons and witty invectives againſt the uſe of that weed, as will appear from the following ſaying of his, extracted from *A collection of*

plied with my defigns, as to take a troubleſome journey into an ill country, only to ſatisfie me; how long may I hope to enjoy you?

Viat. Why truly, Sir, as long as I conveniently can; and longer, I think, you would not have me.

Piſcat. Not to your inconvenience by any means, Sir, but I ſee you are weary, and therefore I will preſently wait on you to your chamber, where take counſel of your pillow, and to-morrow reſolve me. Here take the lights, and pray follow them, Sir; Here you are like to lye, and now I have ſhewed you your lodging, I beſeech you, command any thing you want; and ſo I wiſh you good reſt.

Viat. Good night Sir.

witty apophthegms, *delivered by him and others at ſeveral times, and on ſundry occaſions*, publiſhed in 12mo. 1671.

" That *tobacco was the lively image and pattern of hell*; " for that it had, by alluſion, in it all the parts and vices of " the world whereby hell may be gained; to wit, Firſt, *It " was a ſmoak*; ſo are the vanities of this world. Secondly, " *It delighteth them who take it*; ſo do the pleaſures of the " world delight the men of the world. Thirdly, *It maketh " men drunken, and light in the head*; ſo do the vanities of " the world, men are drunken therewith. Fourthly, *He " that taketh tobacco ſaith he cannot leave it, it doth bewitch " him:* even ſo the pleaſures of the world make men loath " to leave them, they are for the moſt part ſo inchanted " with them: and further, beſides all this, *It is like Hell " in the very ſubſtance of it; for it is a ſtinking loathſome " thing*; and ſo is Hell. And further, his Majeſty profeſ- " ſed that, *were he to invite the Devil to a dinner*, he ſhould " have three diſhes: 1. *A Pig*; 2. *A pole of Ling and muſ- " tard*; and 3. *A pipe of Tobacco* for digeſture."

How *ſententious* and *logical* does this reaſoning appear; nay, and how *wittily* is his Majeſty's ridicule applied for the preſervation of the ſouls, as well as bodies, of his good ſubjects!

CHAP.

CHAP. III.

PISCATOR.

GOOD morrow, Sir, what up and dreſt ſo early!

Viat. Yes, Sir, I have been dreſt this half hour; for I reſted ſo well, and have ſo great a mind either to take, or to ſee a Trout taken in your fine river, that I could no longer lye a bed.

Piſcat. I am glad to ſee you ſo briſk this morning, and ſo eager of ſport; though I muſt tell you, this day proves ſo calm, and the Sun riſes ſo bright, as promiſes no great ſucceſs to the Angler: but however we'll try, and, one way or other, we ſhall ſure do ſomething. What will you have to your breakfaſt, or what will you drink this morning?

Viat. For breakfaſt, I never eat any, and for drink am very indifferent; but if you pleaſe to call for a glaſs of ale I'm for you; and let it be quickly if you pleaſe: for I long to ſee the little fiſhing-houſe you ſpoke of, and to be at my leſſon.

Piſcat. Well, Sir, You ſee the ale is come without calling; for though I do not know yours, my people know my diet, which is always one glaſs ſo ſoon as I am dreſt, and no more till dinner; and ſo my ſervants have ſerved you.

Viat. My thanks, and now if you pleaſe let us look out this fine morning.

Piſcat. With all my heart, boy, take the key of my fiſhing-houſe, and carry down thoſe two

Angle-rods in the hall-window thither, with my fiſh-pannier, pouch and landing-net; and ſtay you there till we come. Come, Sir, we'll walk after; where, by the way, I expect you ſhould raiſe all the exceptions againſt our country you can.

Viat. Nay, Sir, do not think me ſo ill natured, nor ſo uncivil; I only made a little bold with it laſt night to divert you, and was only in jeſt.

Piſcat. You were then in as good earneſt as I am now with you: but had you been really angry at it, I could not blame you: For, to ſay the truth, it is not very taking at firſt ſight: But look you, Sir, now you are abroad, does not the Sun ſhine as bright here as in *Eſſex*, *Middleſex*, or *Kent*, or any of your ſouthern countries.

Viat. 'Tis a delicate morning indeed; and I now think this a marvellous pretty place.

Piſcat. Whether you think ſo or no, you cannot oblige me more than to ſay ſo; and thoſe of my friends who know my humour, and are ſo kind as to comply with it, uſually flatter me that way. But look you, Sir, now you are at the brink of the hill, how do you like my river, the vale it winds through like a ſnake, and the ſcituation of my little fiſhing-houſe?

Viat. Truſt me, 'tis all very fine, and the houſe ſeems at this diſtance a neat building.

Piſcat. Good enough for that purpoſe; and here is a bowling-green too, cloſe by it; ſo though I am myſelf no very good bowler, I am not totally devoted to my own pleaſure, but that I have alſo ſome regard to other mens. And now, Sir, you are come to the door, pray walk in, and and there we will ſit, and talk as long as you pleaſe.

Viat.

Plate XII, to Front *Page* 25. of Part II.

View of the Fishing-House Formerly Mr. COTTON'S

Page 45. Part II.

View of PIKE-POOL

Pub.d According to Act of Parliam.t 1759.

Viat. Stay, what's here over the door? PISCATORIBUS SACRUM.* Why then I perceive I have ſome title here; for I am one of them, though one of the worſt; and here below it is the Cipher too you ſpoke of, and 'tis prettily contrived. Has my maſter *Walton* ever been here to ſee it; for it ſeems new built †?

* *There is under this motto, the Cipher mentioned in the title page, and ſome part of the Fiſhing-houſe has been deſcribed; but the pleaſantneſs of the river, mountains, and meadows, about it, cannot; unleſs Sir* Philip Sidney, *or Mr.* Cotton's *father were again alive to do it.*

Piſcat. Yes, he ſaw it cut in the ſtone before it was ſet up; but never in the poſture it now ſtands: for the houſe was but building when he was laſt here, and not raiſed ſo high as the arch of the door, and I am afraid he will not ſee it yet;

† Having been informed that the fiſhing-houſe here mentioned was yet ſtanding, I employed a very ingenious Gentleman, well known for the many excellent views he has given the public of the *Peak*, and parts adjacent, to make a drawing of that and alſo of *Pike-pool*, with the *rock* riſing in the midſt thereof; both which are deſcribed Chap. VI. this he accordingly did with great accuracy; and from his drawings the plate in the oppoſite page was engraved; which it is imagined the reader will be pleaſed with, as it exhibits the very ſcene where this dialogue is ſuppoſed to have been held, and where, as we are aſſured, *Cotton* and *Walton* uſed to fiſh.

On the outſide of the fiſhing-houſe are the *portraits*, as they are called, of *Charles Cotton*, Eſq; his ſervant the boy, and Mr. *Iſaac Walton*, painted in *Freſco*: but, beſides that the habits beſpeak them to have been drawn many years after their deaths: they are ſo wretchedly executed, that it would have diſgraced this work to have inſerted them.

for

for he has lately writ me word he doubts his coming down this ſummer; which I do aſſure you was the worſt news he could poſſibly have ſent me.

Viat. Men muſt ſometimes mind their affairs to make more room for their pleaſures; and 'tis odds he is as much diſpleaſed with the buſineſs, that keeps him from you, as you are that he comes not. But I am the moſt pleaſed with this little houſe of any thing I ever ſaw: It ſtands in a kind of *Peninſula* too, with a delicate clear river about it. I dare hardly go in, leſt I ſhould not like it ſo well within as without; but by your leave I'll try. Why this is better and better, fine lights, finely wainſcoted, and all exceeding neat, with a marble table and all in the middle!

Piſcat. Enough, Sir, enough, I have laid open to you the part where I can worſt defend myſelf; and now you attaque me there. Come, boy, ſet two chairs, and whilſt I am taking a pipe of Tobacco, which is always my breakfaſt, we will, if you pleaſe, talk of ſome other ſubject.

Viat. None fitter then, Sir, for the time and place, than thoſe inſtructions you promiſed.

Piſcat. I begin to doubt, by ſomething I diſcover in you, whether I am able to inſtruct you, or no; though, if you are really a ſtranger to our clear northern rivers, I ſtill think I can; and therefore, ſince it is yet too early in the morning at this time of the year, to-day being but the ſeventh of *March*, to caſt a flie upon the water if you will direct me what kind of fiſhing for a Trout I ſhall read you a lecture on, I am willing and ready to obey you.

Viat.

Viat. Why, Sir, if you will ſo far oblige me, and that it may not be too troubleſome to you, I would entreat you would run through the whole body of it; and I will not conceal from you, that I am ſo far in love with you, your courteſie, and pretty *Moreland* ſeat, as to reſolve to ſtay with you long enough by intervals; for I will not oppreſs you, to hear all you can ſay upon that ſubject.

Piſcat. You cannot oblige me more than by ſuch a promiſe, and therefore without more ceremony I will begin to tell you; that my father *Walton* having read to you before, it would look like a preſumption in me, and peradventure would do ſo in any other man, to pretend to give leſſons for Angling after him, who, I do really believe, underſtands as much of it, at leaſt, as any man in *England*; did I not preacquaint you, that I am not tempted to it by any vain opinion of myſelf, that I am able to give you better directions; but having from my childhood purſued the recreation of Angling in very clear rivers, truly I think by much, ſome of them at leaſt the cleareſt in this kingdom, and the manner of Angling here with us by reaſon of that exceeding clearneſs, being ſomething different from the method commonly uſed in others, which by being not near ſo bright, admit of ſtronger tackle, and allow a nearer approach to the ſtream; I may peradventure give you ſome inſtructions, that may be of uſe even in your own rivers, and ſhall bring you acquainted with more flies, and ſhew you how to make them, and with what dubbing too, than he has taken notice of in his *Compleat Angler*.

Viat.

Viat. I beſeech you, Sir, do; and if you will lend me your ſteel, I will light a pipe the while; for that is commonly my breakfaſt in a morning too.

CHAP. IV.

PISCATOR.

WHY then, Sir, to begin methodically, as a maſter in any art ſhould do; and I will not deny but that I think myſelf a maſter in this; I ſhall divide Angling for Trout or Grayling into theſe three ways; At the top; at the bottom; and in the middle. Which three ways, though they are all of them, as I ſhall hereafter endeavour to make it appear, in ſome ſort common to both thoſe kinds of fiſh; yet are they not ſo generally and abſolutely ſo, but that they will neceſſarily require a diſtinction, which in due place I will alſo give you.

That which we call Angling at the top, is with a flie; at the bottom with a ground-bait; in the middle with a Minnow or ground-bait.

Angling at the top is of two ſorts; with a quick flie, or with an artificial flie.

That we call Angling at the bottom, is alſo of two ſorts; by hand, or with a cork or float.

That we call Angling in the middle is alſo of two ſorts; with a Minnow for a Trout, or with a ground-bait for a Grayling.

Of

Of all which ſeveral ſorts of Angling, I will, if you can have the patience to hear me, give you the beſt account I can.

Viat. The trouble will be yours, and mine the pleaſure and the obligation: I beſeech you therefore to proceed.

Piſcat. Why then firſt of Flie-fiſhing.

CHAP. V.

Of FLIE-FISHING.

PISCATOR.

FLIE-Fiſhing, or fiſhing at the top, is, as I ſaid before, of two ſorts; with a natural and living flie, or with an artificial and made flie.

Firſt then, Of the natural flie; of which we generally uſe but two ſorts, and thoſe but in the two months of *May* and *June* only, namely, the *Green-drake*, and the *Stone-flie*; though I have made uſe of a third that way, called the *Camlet-flie* with very good ſucceſs for Grayling; but never ſaw it angled with by any other after this manner, my maſter only excepted, who died many years ago, and was one of the beſt Anglers that ever I knew.

Theſe are to be angled with with a ſhort line, not much more than half the length of your rod, if the air be ſtill; or with a longer very near, or all out as long as your rod, if you have any wind to carry it from you, and this way

way of fiſhing we call Daping, Dabbing, or Dibbling, wherein you are always to have your line flying before you up or down the river as the wind ſerves, and to angle as near as you can to the bank of the ſame ſide whereon you ſtand; though where you ſee a fiſh riſe near you, you may guide your quick flie over him, whether in the middle, or on the contrary ſide; and if you are pretty well out of ſight, either by kneeling, or the interpoſition of a bank, or buſh, you may almoſt be ſure to raiſe, and take him too, if it be preſently done; the fiſh will otherwiſe peradventure be removed to ſome other place, if it be in the ſtill deeps, where he is always in motion, and roving up and down to look for prey, though in a ſtream, you may always almoſt, eſpecially if there be a good ſtone near, find him in the ſame place. Your line ought in this caſe to be three good hairs next the hook, both by reaſon you are in this kind of Angling, to expect the biggeſt fiſh, and alſo that wanting length to give him line after he is ſtruck, you muſt be forced to tugg for it; to which I will alſo add, that not an inch of your line being to be ſuffered to touch the water in dibbling; it may be allowed to be the ſtronger. I ſhould now give you a deſcription of thoſe flies, their ſhape and colour, and then give you an account of their breeding, and withal ſhew you how to keep and uſe them; but ſhall defer that to their proper place and ſeaſon.

Viat. In earneſt, Sir, you diſcourſe very rationally of this affair, and I am glad to find myſelf miſtaken in you; for in plain truth I did not expect ſo much from you.

Piſcat.

Piſcat. Nay, Sir, I can tell you a great deal more than this, and will conceal nothing from you. But I muſt now come to the ſecond way of Angling at the top, which is with an artificial flie, which alſo I will ſhew you how to make before I have done; but firſt ſhall acquaint you that with this you are to angle with a line longer by a yard and a half, or ſometimes two yards than your rod, and with both this, and the other, in a ſtill day, in the ſtreams, in a breeze, that curles the water in the ſtill deeps, where (excepting in *May* and *June*, that the beſt Trouts will lye in ſhallow ſtreams to watch for prey, and even then too) you are like to hit the beſt fiſh.

For the length of your rod you are always to be governed by the breadth of the river you ſhall chuſe to angle at; and for a Trout-river, one of five or ſix yards long is commonly enough, and longer though never ſo neatly and artificially made, it ought not to be, if you intend to fiſh at eaſe, and if otherwiſe, where lies the ſport?

Of theſe, the beſt that ever I ſaw are made in *Yorkſhire*, which are all of one piece; that is to ſay, of ſeveral, ſix, eight, ten, or twelve pieces, ſo neatly pieced, and tied together with fine thred below, and ſilk above, as to make it taper, like a ſwitch, and to ply with a true bent to your hand; and theſe too are light, being made of fir wood, for two or three lengths, neareſt to the hand, and of other wood nearer to the top, that a man might very eaſily manage the longeſt of them that ever I ſaw, with one hand; and theſe when you have given

over

over Angling for a ſeaſon, being taken to pieces, and laid up in ſome dry place, may afterwards be ſet together again in their former poſtures, and will be as ſtrait, ſound, and good as the firſt hour they were made, and being laid in oyl and colour according to your maſter *Walton*'s direction, will laſt many years.

The length of your line, to a man that knows how to handle his rod, and to caſt it, is no manner of encumbrance, excepting in woody places, and in landing of a fiſh, which every one that can afford to Angle for pleaſure, has ſome body to do for him, and the length of line is a mighty advantage to the fiſhing at diſtance; and to fiſh *fine*, and *far off* is the firſt and principal rule for Trout Angling *.

Your line in this caſe ſhould never be leſs, nor ever exceed two hairs next to the hook, for one, though ſome I know will pretend to more art than their fellows, is indeed too few, the leaſt accident, with the fineſt hand, being ſufficient to break it: but he that cannot kill a Trout of twenty inches long with two, in a river clear of wood and weeds, as this and ſome others of ours are, deſerves not the name of an Angler †.

Now to have your whole line as it ought to be, two of the firſt lengths, neareſt the hook, ſhould be of two hairs a piece, the next three lengths above them of three, the next three above them of four, and ſo of five and ſix,

* An artiſt may eaſily throw twelve yards of line with one hand, and with two he may as eaſily throw eighteen.

† See the directions for your rod and line in the notes on Chap. XXI. Part I.

and

and ſeven, to the very top: by which means your rod and tackle will in a manner be taper from your very hand to your hook; your line will fall much better and ſtraiter, and caſt your flie to any certain place to which the hand and eye ſhall direct it, with leſs weight and violence, that would otherwiſe circle the water, and fright away the fiſh.

In caſting your line, do it always before you *, and ſo that your flie may firſt fall upon the water, and as little of your line with it as is poſſible; though if the wind be ſtiff, you will then of neceſſity be compelled to drown a good part of your line to keep your flie in the water: and in caſting your flie, you muſt aim at the further, or nearer bank, as the wind ſerves your turn; which alſo will be with and againſt you on the ſame ſide ſeveral times in an hour, as the river winds in its courſe, and you will be forced to angle up and down by turns accordingly; but are to endeavour, as much as you can, to have the wind evermore on your back, and always be ſure to ſtand as far off the bank as your length will give you leave when you throw to the contrary ſide; though when the wind will not permit you ſo to do, and that you are conſtrained to angle on the ſame ſide whereon you ſtand, you muſt then ſtand on the very brink of the river, and caſt your flie at the utmoſt length of your rod and line, up or down the river as the gale ſerves.

* 'Till you are a proficient every throw will go near to coſt you a hook; therefore practiſe for ſome time without one.

It only remains, touching your line, to enquire whether your two hairs next to the hook, are better twisted, or open; and for that, I should declare that I think the open way the better; because it makes less shew in the water, but that I have found an inconvenience, or two, or three, that have made me almost weary of that way; of which one is, that without dispute they are not so strong twisted, as open; another, that they are not easily to be fastened of so exact an equal length in the arming, that the one will not cause the other to bag, by which means a man has but one hair, upon the matter, to trust to; and the last is, that these loose flying hairs are not only more apt to catch upon every twig or bent they meet with, but moreover the hook, in falling upon the water, will very often rebound, and fly back betwixt the hairs, and there stick, which, in a rough water especially, is not presently to be discerned by the Angler; so as the point of the hook shall stand reversed; by which means your flie swims backward, makes a much greater circle in the water, and till taken home to you, and set right, will never raise any fish; or if it should, I am sure, but by a very extraordinary chance, can hit none*.

Having done with both these ways of fishing at the top; the length of your rod, and line and all: I am next to teach you how to make a flie; and afterwards of what dubbing you

* This and the other inconveniences, mentioned in this paragraph, are effectally avoided by the use of a fine grass, or gut, of about half a yard long next the hook. See the notes on Chap. XXI. Part I.

are

are to make the ſeveral flies I ſhall hereafter name to you.

In making a flie then, which is not a Hackle, or Palmer-flie; (for of thoſe, and their ſeveral kinds we ſhall have occaſion to ſpeak every Month in the Year) you are firſt to hold your hook faſt betwixt the fore-finger and thumb of your left hand, with the back of the ſhank upwards, and the point towards your finger's end; then take a ſtrong ſmall ſilk of the colour of the flie you intend to make, wax it well with wax of the ſame colour, to which end you are always, by the way, to have wax of all colours about you, and draw it betwixt your finger and thumb, to the head of the ſhank, and then whip it twice or thrice about the bare hook, which you muſt know is done, both to prevent ſlipping, and alſo that the ſhank of the hook may not cut the hairs of your towght, which ſometimes it will otherwiſe do: which being done, take your line and draw it likewiſe betwixt your finger and thumb, holding the hook ſo faſt, as only to ſuffer it to paſs by, until you have the knot of your towght almoſt to the middle of the ſhank of your hook, on the inſide of it; then whip your ſilk twice or thrice about both hook and line, as hard as the ſtrength of the ſilk will permit; which being done, ſtrip the feather for the wings proportionable to the bigneſs of your flie, placing that ſide downwards, which grew uppermoſt before, upon the back of the hook, leaving ſo much only as to ſerve for the length of the wing of the point of the plume, lying reverſed from the end of the ſhank upwards; then whip your ſilk twice or thrice about the root-end of the

feather, hook, and towght; which being done, clip off the root end of the feather close by the arming, and then whip the silk fast and firm about the hook, and towght until you come to the bend of the hook; but not further, as you do at *London*; and so make a very unhandsome, and, in plain *English*, a very unnatural and shapeless flie; which being done, cut away the end of your towght, and fasten it, and then take your dubbing, which is to make the body of your flie, as much as you think convenient, and holding it lightly with your hook betwixt the finger and thumb of your left-hand, take your silk with the right, and twisting it betwixt the finger and thumb of that hand, the dubbing will spin itself about the silk, which when it has done, whip it about the armed hook backward, till you come to the setting on of the wings; and then take the feather for the wings, and divide it equally into two parts, and turn them back towards the bend of the hook, the one on the one side, and the other on the other of the shank, holding them fast in that posture betwixt the fore-finger and thumb of your left-hand; which done, warp them so down as to stand, and slope towards the bend of the hook: and having warped up to the end of the shank, hold the flie fast betwixt the finger and thumb of your left-hand, and then take the silk betwixt the finger and thumb of your right-hand, and where the warping ends, pinch or nip it with your thumb-nail against your finger, and strip away the remainder of your dubbing from the silk, and then with the bare silk whip it once or twice about, make the wings to stand in due order, fasten, and cut it off;

after

after which with the point of a needle raiſe up the dubbing gently from the warp, twitch off the ſuperfluous hairs of your dubbing, leave the wings of an equal length, your flie will never elſe ſwim true, and the work is done. And this way of making a flie, which is certainly the beſt of all other, was taught me by a kinſman of mine, one Captain *Henry Jackſon*, a near neighbour, an admirable flie-angler, by many degrees the beſt flie-maker, that ever I yet met with *. And now that I have told you how a flie is to be made, you ſhall preſently ſee me make one, with which you may peradventure take a Trout this morning, notwithſtanding the unlikelineſs of the day; for it is now nine of the clock, and fiſh will begin to riſe, if they will riſe to day; I will walk along by you, and look on, and after dinner I will proceed in my lecture of flie-fiſhing.

Viat. I confeſs I long to be at the river; and yet I could ſit here all day to hear you: but ſome of the one, and ſome of the other will do well: and I have a mighty ambition to take a Trout in your river *Dove*.

Piſcat. I warrant you ſhall: I would not for more than I will ſpeak of but you ſhould, ſeeing I have ſo extolled my river to you: nay, I will keep you here a month; but you ſhall have one good day of ſport before you go.

* There needs nothing more be ſaid of theſe directions than that hundreds have, by means of them alone, become excellent fly-makers.

For making a Palmer, or Hackle, ſee the notes on Chap. VII.

Viat. You will find me, I doubt, too tractable that way; for in good earneſt, if buſineſs would give me leave, and that it were fit, I could find in my heart to ſtay with you for ever.

Piſcat. I thank you, Sir, for that kind expreſſion; and now let me look out my things to make this flie.

CHAP. VI.

PISCATOR.

BOY, come, give me my dubbing-bag here preſently; and now, Sir, ſince I find you ſo honeſt a man, I will make no ſcruple to lay open my treaſure before you.

Viat. Did ever any one ſee the like! what a heap of trumpery is here! certainly never an Angler in *Europe* has his ſhop half ſo well furniſhed, as you have.

Piſcat. You, perhaps, may think now, that I rake together this trumpery, as you call it, for ſhew only, to the end that ſuch as ſee it, which are not many I aſſure you, may think me a great maſter in the Art of Angling: but let me tell you here are ſome colours, as contemptible as they ſeem here, that are very hard to be got, and ſcarce any one of them, which if it ſhould be loſt, I ſhould not miſs, and be concerned about the loſs of it too, once in the year; but look you, Sir, amongſt all theſe I will chuſe out theſe two colours only, of which this is bear's hair, this darker,

Plate XIII. to Front *Page* 39. of Part II.

S. Wale. Inv.t Eyland Sculp.t

Pub.d According to Act of Parliam.t 1759.

darker, no great matter what; but I am ſure I have killed a great deal of fiſh with it; and with one or both of theſe you ſhall take Trout or Grayling this very day, notwithſtanding all diſadvantages, or my art ſhall fail me.

Viat. You promiſe comfortably, and I have a great deal of reaſon to believe every thing you ſay; but I wiſh the flie were made, that we were at it.

Piſcat. That will not be long in doing: and pray obſerve then. You ſee firſt how I hold my hook, and thus I begin. Look you, here are my firſt two or three whips about the bare hook; thus I join hook and line; thus I put on my wings; thus I twirl and lap on my dubbing; thus I work it up towards the head; thus I part my wings; thus I nip my ſuperfluous dubbing from my ſilk; thus faſten; thus trim and adjuſt my flie, and there's a flie made; and now how do you like it?

Viat. In earneſt, admirably well, and it perfectly reſembles a flie; but we about *London* make the bodies of our flies both much bigger and longer, ſo long as even almoſt to the very beard of the hook.

Piſcat. I know it very well, and had one of thoſe flies given me by an honeſt Gentleman, who came with my father *Walton* to give me a viſit; which, to tell you the truth, I hung in my parlour window to laugh at: but, Sir, you know the proverb, "They who go to *Rome*, muſt do "as they at *Rome* do;" and believe me, you muſt here make your flies after this faſhion, or you will take no fiſh. Come, I will look you out a line, and you ſhall put it on, and try it. There, Sir,

now I think you are fitted; and now beyond the farther end of the walk you ſhall begin: I ſee at that bend of the water above, the air criſps the water a little; knit your line firſt here, and then go up thither, and ſee what you can do.

Viat. Did you ſee that, Sir.

Piſcat. Yes, I ſaw the fiſh, and he ſaw you too, which made him turn ſhort; you muſt fiſh further off, if you intend to have any ſport here; this is no *New-River*, let me tell you. That was a good Trout, believe me; did you touch him?

Viat. No, I would I had, we would not have parted ſo. Look you, there was another; this is an excellent flie.

Piſcat. That flie, I am ſure, would kill fiſh, if the day were right; but they only chew at it, I ſee, and will not take it. Come, Sir, let us return back to the fiſhing-houſe; this ſtill water I ſee will not do our buſineſs to day; you ſhall now, if you pleaſe, make a flie your ſelf *, and try what you can do in the ſtreams with that; and I know a Trout taken with a flie of your own making, will pleaſe you better than twenty with one of

* To make a Fly is ſo eſſential, that he hardly deſerves the name of an Angler who cannot do it. There are many who will go to a Tackle-ſhop. and tell the maſter of it, as *Dapper* does *Subtle*, in the *Alchemiſt*, that they *want a fly*; for which they have a thing put into their hands that would poſe a Naturaliſt to find a reſemblance for: though, when particular directions have been given, I have known them excellently made by Mr. *John Herro*, of *Bell-Yard*, near *Temple-Bar*, *London*. But do thou, my honeſt friend, learn to make thy own flies; and be aſſured, that in collecting and arranging the materials, and imitating the various ſhapes and colours of theſe admirable creatures, there is little leſs pleaſure than even in catching fiſh.

mine.

mine. Give me that Bag again, *Sirrah*; look you, Sir, there is a hook, towght, ſilk, and a feather for the wings; be doing with thoſe, and I will look you out a dubbing, that I think will do.

Viat. This is a very little hook.

Piſcat. That may ſerve to inform you, that it is for a very little flie, and you muſt make your wings accordingly; for as the caſe ſtands it muſt be a little flie, and a very little one too, that muſt do your buſineſs. Well ſaid! believe me you ſhift your fingers very handſomely; I doubt I have taken upon me to teach my Maſter. So, here's your dubbing now.

Viat. This dubbing is very black.

Piſcat. It appears ſo in hand; but ſtep to the door and hold it up betwixt your eye and the Sun, and it will appear a ſhining red; let me tell you never a man in *England* can diſcerne the true colour of a dubbing any way but that, and therefore chuſe always to make your flies on ſuch a bright Sun-ſhine day as this, which alſo you may the better do, becauſe it is worth nothing to fiſh in: here, put it on, and beſure to make the body of your flie as ſlender as you can. Very good! upon my word you have made a marvellous handſome flie!

Viat. I am very glad to hear it; 'tis the firſt that ever I made of this kind in my life.

Piſcat. Away, away! You are a Doctor at it! but I will not commend you too much, leſt I make you proud. Come, put it on, and you ſhall now go downward to ſome ſtreams betwixt the rocks below the little foot-bridg you ſee there, and try your fortune. Take heed of ſlipping into

into the water as you follow me under this rock: So, now you are over, and now throw in.

Viat. This is a fine ſtream indeed: There's one! I have him.

Piſcat. And a precious catch you have of him; pull him out! I ſee you have a tender hand: this is a diminutive gentleman, e'en throw him in again, and let him grow till he be more worthy your anger.

Viat. Pardon me, Sir, all's fiſh that comes to' th' hook with me now. Another!

Piſc. And of the ſame ſtanding.

Viat. I ſee I ſhall have good ſport now: another! and a Grayling. Why you have fiſh here at will.

Piſc. Come, come, croſs the bridge, and go down the other ſide lower, where you will find finer ſtreams, and better ſport, I hope, than this. Look you, Sir, here is a fine ſtream now, you have length enough, ſtand a little further off, let me entreat you, and do but fiſh this ſtream like an artiſt, and peradventure a good fiſh may fall to your ſhare. How now! what is all gone?

Viat. No, I but touch'd him; but that was a fiſh worth taking.

Piſc. Why now, let me tell you, you loſt that fiſh by your own fault, and through your own eagerneſs and haſte; for you are never to offer to ſtrike a good fiſh, if he do not ſtrike himſelf, till firſt you ſee him turn his head after he has taken your flie, and then you can never ſtrain your tackle in the ſtriking, if you ſtrike with any manner of moderation. Come, throw in once again, and fiſh me this ſtream by inches; for I

aſſure

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S. Wale inv. *I. Ryland Sculp.*

Pub.d According to Act of Parliam.t 1759

aſſure you here are very good fiſh; both trout and grayling, lie here; and at that great ſtone on the other ſide, 'tis ten to one a good trout gives you the meeting.

Viat. I have him now, but he is gone down towards the bottom; I cannot ſee what he is, yet he ſhould be a good fiſh by his weight; but he makes no great ſtir.

Piſc. Why then, by what you ſay, I dare venture to aſſure you, 'tis a Grayling, who is one of the deadeſt-hearted fiſhes in the world, and the bigger he is the more eaſily taken. Look you, now you ſee him plain; I told you what he was; bring hither that landing-net, Boy; and now, Sir, he is your own; and believe me a good one, ſixteen inches long I warrant him; I have taken none ſuch this year.

Viat. I never ſaw a Grayling before look ſo black.

Piſc. Did you not? why then let me tell you, that you never ſaw one before in right ſeaſon: for then a Grayling is very black about his head, guills, and down his back, and has his belly of a dark grey, dappled with black ſpots, as you ſee this is; and I am apt to conclude, that from thence he derives his name of Umber. Though I muſt tell you this fiſh is paſt his prime, and begins to decline, and was in better ſeaſon at *Chriſtmas* than he is now. But move on, for it grows towards dinner-time, and there is a very great and fine ſtream below, under that rock, that fills the deepeſt pool in all the River, where you are almoſt ſure of a good fiſh.

Viat. Let him come, I'll try a fall with him; but I had thought, that the grayling had been always

ways in ſeaſon with the Trout, and had come in and gone out with him.

Piſc. Oh no! aſſure yourſelf a Grayling is a winter-fiſh: but ſuch a one as would deceive any but ſuch as know him very well indeed, for his fleſh, even in his worſt ſeaſon, is ſo firm, and will ſo eaſily calver, that in plain truth he is very good meat at all times; but in his perfect ſeaſon, which, by the way, none but an over-grown Grayling will ever be, I think him ſo good a fiſh as to be little inferiour to the beſt Trout that ever I taſted in my life.

Viat. Here's another ſkip-jack, and I have raiſed five or ſix more at leaſt whilſt you were ſpeaking: well, go thy way little *Dove!* thou art the fineſt River, that ever I ſaw, and the fulleſt of fiſh. Indeed, Sir, I like it ſo well, that I am afraid you will be troubled with me once a year, ſo long as we two live.

Piſc. I am afraid I ſhall not, Sir; but were you once here a *May* or a *June*, if good ſport would tempt you, I ſhould then expect you would ſometimes ſee me; for you would then ſay it were a fine River indeed, if you had once ſeen the ſport at the height.

Viat. Which I will do, if I live, and that you pleaſe to give me leave: there was one, and there another.

Piſc. And all this in a ſtrange River, and with a flie of your own making! why what a dangerous man are you!

Viat. I, Sir, but who taught me? and as *Damœtas* ſays by his man *Dorus*, ſo you may ſay by me.

——— *If my man ſuch praiſes have,*
What then have I, that taught the knave * ?

But what have we got here? a rock ſpringing up in the middle of the River! this is one of the oddeſt ſights, that ever I ſaw.

Piſcat. Why, Sir, from that Pike †, that you ſee ſtanding up there diſtant from the rock, this is called *Pike-Pool:* and young Mr. *Izaak Walton* was ſo pleaſed with it, as to draw it in landſchape in black and white, in a blank book I have at home, as he has done ſeveral proſpects of my houſe alſo, which I keep for a memorial of his favour, and will ſhew you, when we come up to dinner.

† *'Tis a rock, in the faſhion of a ſpire-ſteeple, and almoſt as big. It ſtands in the midſt of the river* Dove; *and not far from Mr.* Cotton's *houſe, below which place this delicate river takes a ſwift career betwixt many mighty rocks, much higher and bigger than St.* Paul's *church, before it was burnt. And this* Dove *being oppoſed by one of the higheſt of them, has, at laſt, forced itſelf away through it; and after a mile's concealment, appears again with more glory and beauty than before that oppoſition; running through the moſt pleaſant valleys and moſt fruitful meadows, that this nation can juſtly boaſt of.*

Viat. Has young maſter *Izaak Walton* been here too?

Piſc. Yes marry has he, Sir, and that again, and again too, and in *France* ſince, and at *Rome*, and at *Venice*, and I can't tell where: but I intend to aſk him a great many hard queſtions ſo ſoon as I can ſee him, which will be, God willing, next month. In the mean time, Sir, to come to this fine ſtream at the head of this great

* *Sidney*'s Arcadia.

pool,

pool, you muſt venture over theſe ſlippery, cobling ſtones; believe me, Sir, there you were nimble or elſe you had been down; but now you are got over, look to yourſelf: for on my word, if a fiſh riſe here, he is like to be ſuch a one, as will endanger your tackle: how now!

Viat. I think you have ſuch command here over the fiſhes, that you can raiſe them by your word, as they ſay conjurers can do ſpirits, and afterward make them do what you bid them: for here's a Trout has taken my flie, I had rather have loſt a crown. What luck's this! he was a lovely fiſh, and turned up a ſide like a Salmon.

Piſc. O Sir, this is a war where you ſometimes win, and muſt ſometimes expect to loſe. Never concern yourſelf for the loſs of your flie; for ten to one I teach you to make a better. Who's that calls?

Serv. Sir, will it pleaſe you to come to dinner?

Piſc. We come. You hear, Sir, we are called, and now take your choice, whether you will climb this ſteep hill before you, from the top of which you will go directly into the houſe, or back again over theſe ſtepping-ſtones, and about by the bridg.

Viat. Nay, ſure the neareſt way is beſt; at leaſt my ſtomach tells me ſo; and I am now ſo well acquainted with your rocks, that I fear them not.

Piſc. Come then, follow me; and ſo ſoon as we have dined, we will down again to the little houſe, where I will begin at the place I left off about flie-fiſhing, and read you another lecture; for I have a great deal more to ſay upon that ſubject.

Viat.

Viat. The more the better; I could never have met with a more obliging master, my first excepted; nor such sport can all the rivers about *London* ever afford, as is to be found in this pretty river.

Pisc. You deserve to have better, both because I see you are willing to take pains, and for liking this little so well; and better I hope to shew you before we part.

CHAP. VII.

VIATOR.

COME, Sir, having now well dined, and being again set in your little house; I will now challenge your promise, and entreat you to proceed in your instruction for flie-fishing, which, that you may be the better encouraged to do, I will assure you, that I have not lost, I think, one syllable of what you have told me; but very well retain all your directions both for the rod, line, and making a flie, and now desire an account of the flies themselves.

Piscat. Why Sir, I am ready to give it you, and shall have the whole afternoon to do it in, if no body come in to interrupt us; for you must know, besides the unfitness of the day, that the afternoons so early in *March*, signifie very little to Angling with a flie, though with a Minnow, or a worm something might, I confess, be done.

To

To begin then where I left off; my Father *Walton* tells us but of twelve artificial flies, to Angle with at the top, and gives their names; of which some are common with us here; and I think I guess at most of them by his description, and I believe they all breed, and are taken in our Rivers, though we do not make them either of the same dubbing, or fashion. And it may be in the Rivers about *London* which I presume he has most frequented, and where 'tis likely he has done most execution, there is not much notice taken of many more: but we are acquainted with several others here, though perhaps I may reckon some of his by other names too; but if I do, I shall make you amends by an addition to his catalogue. And although the forenamed great master in the art of Angling, for so in truth he is, tells you that no man should in honesty catch a Trout till the middle of *March*, yet I hope he will give a man leave sooner to take a Grayling, which, as I told you, is in the dead months in his best season; and do assure you, which I remember by a very remarkable token, I did once take upon the sixth day of *December* one, and only one, of the biggest Graylings and the best in season, that ever I yet saw, or tasted; and do usually take Trouts too, and with a flie, not only before the middle of this month, but almost every year in *February*, unless it be a very ill spring indeed, and have sometimes in *January*, so early as new-years-tide, and in frost and snow taken Grayling in a warm sunshine day for an hour or two about noon; and to fish for him with a grub it is then the best time of all.

I ſhall therefore begin my flie-fiſhing with that month, though I confeſs very few begin ſo ſoon, and that ſuch as are ſo fond of the ſport as to embrace all opportunities, can rarely in that month find a day fit for their purpoſe, and tell you, that upon my knowledge theſe flies in a warm ſun, for an hour or two in the day, are certainly taken.

JANUARY.

1. A RED BROWN with wings of the male of a Mallard almoſt white: the dubbing of the tail of a black long-coated Cur, ſuch as they commonly make muffs of; for the hair on the tail of ſuch a dog dies and turns to a red brown, but the hair of a ſmooth-coated dog of the ſame colour will not do, becauſe it will not die, but retains its natural colour, and this flie is taken in a warm ſun, this whole month through.

2. There is alſo a very little BRIGHT DUN GNAT, as little as can poſſibly be made, ſo little as never to be fiſhed with, with above one hair next the hook; and this is to be made of a mixt dubbing of Marten's fur, and the white of a Hare's ſcut; with a very white, and ſmall wing; and 'tis no great matter how fine you fiſh, for nothing will riſe in this month but a Grayling, and of them I never, at this ſeaſon, ſaw any taken with a flie, of above a foot long in my life: but of little ones about the bigneſs of a ſmelt, in a warm day, and a glowing ſun, you may take enough with theſe two flies, and they are both taken the whole month through.

FEBRUARY.

1. Where the Red-brown of the laſt month ends, another almoſt of the ſame colour begins with this ſaving, that the dubbing of this muſt be of ſomething a blacker colour, and both of them warpt on with red ſilk; the dubbing that ſhould make this flie, and that is the trueſt colour, is to be got off the black ſpot of a Hog's ear: not that a black ſpot in any part of the Hog will not afford the ſame colour; but that the hair in that place is, by many degrees, ſofter, and more fit for the purpoſe: his wing muſt be as the other, and this kills all this month, and is called the leſſer Red-brown.

2. This month alſo a PLAIN HACKLE (1), or Palmer-flie made with a rough black body, either of black Spaniel's furr, or the whirl of an Eſtridg feather, and the red Hackle of a Capon over all, will kill, and if the weather be right, make very good ſport.

3. Alſo a LESSER HACKLE with a black body alſo, ſilver twiſt over that, and a red feather over all, will fill your pannier if the month be open, and not bound up in ice, and ſnow, with very good fiſh; but in caſe of a froſt and ſnow, you are to angle only with the ſmalleſt Gnats, Browns and Duns, you can make, and with thoſe

VARIATIONS.

The author is now in the month of *February*, during which are taken, the

(1) PLAIN HACKLE; which we would recommend to be made of black Oſtrich Herl warped, or tied down to the Dubbing with red ſilk, and a red Cock's Hackle over all.

are

are only to expect Graylings no bigger than ſprats.

4. In this month, upon a whirling round water, we have a GREAT HACKLE, the body black, and wrapped with a red feather of a Capon untrimmed; that is, the whole length of the Hackle ſtaring out; for we ſometimes barb the Hackle-feather ſhort all over; ſometimes barb it only a little, and ſometimes barb it cloſe underneath, leaving the whole length of the feather on the top, or back of the flie, which makes it ſwim better, and, as occaſion ſerves, kills very great fiſh.

5. We make uſe alſo, in this month, of another great Hackle, the body black, and ribbed over with gold twiſt, and a red feather over all; which alſo does great execution (2).

6. Alſo a GREAT DUN, made with Dun Bear's hair, and the wings of the grey feather of a Mallard near unto his tail; which is abſolutely the beſt flie can be thrown upon a River this month, and with which an Angler ſhall have admirable ſport.

7. We have alſo this month the GREAT BLUE DUN, the dubbing of the bottom of Bear's hair next to the roots, mixt with a little blue camlet, the wings of the dark grey feather of a Mallard.

VARIATIONS.

(2) GOLD-TWIST HACKLE; the ſame Dubbing, Warping and Hackle, with Gold-twiſt.

N. B. *Theſe Hackles are taken chiefly from nine to eleven in the morning, and from one to three in the afternoon. They will do for any month in the year, and upon any water.*

8. We have alſo this month a DARK-BROWN, the dubbing of a brown hair off the flank of a brended Cow, and the wings of the grey Drake's feather.

And note, that theſe ſeveral Hackles, or Palmer-flies, are ſome for one water, and one ſkye, and ſome for another, and according to the change of thoſe, we alter their ſize, and colour; and note alſo, that both in this, and all other months of the year, when you do not certainly know what flie is taken; or cannot ſee any fiſh to riſe, you are then to put on a ſmall Hackle, if the water be clear, or a bigger, if ſomething dark, untill you have taken one, and then thruſting your finger thorough his guils, to pull out his gorge, which being opened with your knife, you will then diſcover what flie is taken, and may fit yourſelf accordingly.

For the making of a Hackle, or Palmer-flie my father *Walton* has already given you ſufficient direction *.

MARCH.

* But, with Mr. *Cotton*'s good leave, he has not, nor has any author, that I know of, unleſs we are to take that for a Palmer, which *Walton* has given directions for making Page 111; which I can never do till I ſee, what I have never yet ſeen, *viz. Caterpillars with wings*. Rejecting, therefore, wings as unnatural and abſurd; ſuppoſing you would make the plain Hackle or Palmer, which are terms of the ſame import, the method of doing it is as follows, *viz.*

Hold your hook in a horizontal poſition, with the ſhank downwards, and the bent of it between the fore-finger and thumb of your left hand; and, having a fine briſtle, and other materials, lying by you, take half a yard of fine red marking-ſilk, well waxed, and, with your right hand, give it four or five turns about the ſhank of the hook, inclining the turns to the right hand: when you are near the end of the

MARCH.

For this month you are to uſe all the ſame Hackles, and flies with the other, but you are to make them leſs.

1. We have beſides for this month a little Dun called a WHIRLING DUN (3), though it is not the Whirling Dun indeed, which is one of the beſt flies we have, and for this the dubbing muſt be of the bottom fur of a Squirrel's tail, and the wing of the grey feather of a Drake.

2. Alſo

the ſhank, turn it into ſuch a loop as you are hereafter directed to make for faſtening off, and draw it tight, leaving the ends of the ſilk to hang down at each end of the hook. Having ſinged the end of your briſtle, lay the ſame along on the inſide of the ſhank of the hook, as low as the bent, and whip four or five times round; then ſinging the other end of the briſtle to a fit length, turn it over to the back of the ſhank, and, pinching it into a proper form, whip down and faſten off, as before directed; which will bring both ends of the ſilk into the bent. After you have waxed your ſilk

VARIATIONS.

(3) GREAT WHIRLING DUN. Dub with Fox cub, or Squirrel's-fur, well mixed with about a ſixth part of the fineſt Hog's-wool, warp with pale orange-wings, very large, taken from the quill-feather of a ruddy Hen, the head to be faſtened with aſh-colour ſilk, a red Cock's Hackle, at full length, may be wraped under the wings, and a turn or two lower towards the tail.

This is a killing-flie, and is to be ſeen riſing out of the ſedges in moſt Trout rivers, late in the evening, ſeldom before ſun-ſet, and continues on the water till midnight, or after. It is found moſt of the warm months; but kills chiefy in a bluſtering warm evening, from the middle of May *to the end of* July.

2. Alſo a BRIGHT BROWN, the dubbing either of the brown of a Spaniel, or that of a Cow's flank, with a grey wing.

3. Alſo

ſilk again, take three or four ſtrands of an Oſtrich feather, and holding them, and the bent of the hook as at firſt directed, the feathers to your left hand, and the roots in the bent of your hook, with that end of the ſilk which you juſt now waxed, whip them three or four times round, and faſten off: then turning the feathers to the right, and twiſting them and the ſilk with your fore-finger and thumb, wind them round the ſhank of the hook, ſtill ſupplying the ſhort ſtrands with new ones, as they fail, till you come to the end and faſten off When you have ſo done, clip off the ends of the feathers, and trim the body of the Palmer ſmall at the extremities, and full in the middle, and wax both ends of your ſilk, which are now divided and lie at either end of the hook.

Lay your work by you, and taking a ſtrong bold Hackle, with fibres about half an inch long, ſtraiten the ſtem very carefully, and holding the ſmall end between the fore-finger and thumb of your left hand, with thoſe of the right, ſtroak the fibres the contrary way to that which they naturally lie; and taking the hook, and holding it as before, lay the point of the Hackle into the bent of the hook with the hollow, which is the paleſt ſide, upwards, and whip it very faſt to its place: in doing whereof, be careful not to tie in many of the fibres; or if you ſhould chance to do ſo, pick them out with the point of a very large needle.

When the Hackle is thus made faſt, the utmoſt care and nicety is neceſſary in winding it on; for if you fail in this, your flie is ſpoiled, and you muſt begin all again; to prevent which, keeping the hollow or pale ſide to your left hand, and, as much as poſſible, the ſide of the ſtem down on the dubbing, wind the Hackle twice round, and holding faſt what you have ſo wound, pick out the looſe fibres, which you may have taken in, and make another turn: then lay hold of the Hackle with the third and fourth fingers of your left hand, with which you may extend it while you diſengage the looſe fibres as before.

In

3. Alſo a WHITISH DUN made of the roots of Camel's hair, and the wings of the grey feather of a Mallard.

4. There

In this manner proceed till you come to within an eighth of an inch of the end of the ſhank; where you will find an end of ſilk hanging, and by which time you will find the fibres at the great end of the Hackle ſomewhat diſcompoſed; clip theſe off cloſe to the ſtem, and, with the end of your middle finger, preſs the ſtem cloſe to the hook, while, with the fore-finger of your right hand, you turn the ſilk into a loop; which when you have twice put over the end of the ſhank of the hook, loop and all, your work is ſafe.

Then wax that end of the ſilk which you now uſed, and turn it over as before, till you have taken up nearly all that remained of the hook, obſerving to lay the turns neatly ſide by ſide; and laſtly, clip off the ends of the ſilk: thus will you have made a bait that will catch Trout of the largeſt ſize, in any water in *England*.

And leſt the method of faſtening off, which occurs ſo often in this kind of work, ſhould not appear ſufficiently intelligible, the reader will ſee it repreſented Fig. 9. Plate X.

It is true, the method above deſcribed will require ſome variation in the caſe of gold and ſilver-twiſt Palmers; in the making whereof the management of the twiſt is to be conſidered as another operation; but this variation will ſuggeſt itſelf to every reader, as will alſo the method of making thoſe flies, contained in the notes, that have Hackle under the wings; which elſe we ſhould have added to *Cotton*'s directions for making a fly, which he gives *Viator* in the fiſhing-houſe. See Page 35. Part II.

The directions of Mr. Cotton *for making flies are to be conſidered as the very baſis and foundation of that art; no author before him having ever treated the ſubject ſo copiouſly and accurately as he has done: what improvements have been made ſince his time, have been handed about in manuſcript liſts, but have hardly ever been communicated to the public.*

A reverend, worthy and ingenious friend of mine, a lover of Angling, who has practiſed that and the art of fly-making theſe thirty years, and is the Gentleman mentioned in the note, Page 259, has generouſly communicated to me the reſult of his

4. There is alſo for this month a flie, called the THORN-TREE FLIE, the dubbing an abſolute black mixt with eight or ten hairs of *Iſabella* coloured * Mohair, the body as little as can

many years experience, in a liſt of a great number of flies, not mentioned by Cotton, *with ſome variations in the manner of making thoſe deſcribed in the text. And as to theſe deviations, it is hoped they will be conſidered as improvements; ſince I am authorized to ſay, that the above Gentleman has, in the making of flies, made it a conſtant rule to follow nature.*

Part of this liſt is, for very obvious reaſons, wrought into the form of notes on that of Mr. Cotton, *and the reſt with another very valuable catalogue, compoſed by a North-country Angler, and communicated to me by the ſame Gentleman, make* N°. I *and* II. *of the* Appendix *to this Volume.*

The reader will there alſo find N°. III. *a liſt of flies formerly publiſhed in the* Angler's Vade Mecum, *ſo often referred to in the courſe of this work; and though the flies therein contained are ſaid to be chiefly of uſe in ſtony, I have tried ſome of them, eſpecially the Duns, in other rivers, and found them to be excellent.*

The reader may poſſibly have ſeen or heard of a MS. liſt, compoſed by Mr. Jemmit, *a famous Fly-angler, deceaſed; a copy whereof I have by me: but as it does not give the months when the ſeveral flies deſcribed by him are taken, it was thought it would anſwer no end to publiſh it.*

* Iſabella *Spezie di colore che partecipa del bianco e del giallo. Altieri*'s dictionary. A kind of whitiſh yellow, or, as ſome ſay, buff-colour a little ſoiled.

How it came by this name will appear from the following anecdote; for which I am obliged to a very ingenious and learned lady. The Archduke *Albertus*, who had married the *Infanta Iſabella*, daughter of *Philip* the ſecond, King of *Spain*, with whom he had the Low Countries in dowry, in the year 1602, having determined to lay ſiege to *Oſtend*, then in the poſſeſſion of the heretics; his pious Princeſs, who attended him in that expedition, made a vow, that till it was taken ſhe would never change her cloaths. Contrary to expectation, as the ſtory ſays, it was three years before the place was reduced, in which time her Highneſs's linen had acquired the abovementioned hue.

be

be made, and the wings of a bright Mallard's feather, an admirable flie, and in great repute amongſt us for a killer.

5. There is beſides this, another (4) BLUE DUN, the dubbing of which it is made being thus to be got. Take a ſmall-tooth comb, and with it comb the neck of a black Greyhound, and the down that ſticks in the teeth, will be the fineſt blue, that ever you ſaw. The wings of this flie can hardly be too white, and he is taken about the tenth of this month, and laſteth till the four and twentieth.

6. From the tenth of this month alſo till towards the end, is taken a little BLACK GNAT; the dubbing either of the fur of a black water-Dog, or the down of a young black water-Coot, the wings of the Male of a Mallard as white as may be, the body as little as you can poſſibly make it, and the wings as ſhort as his body.

7. From the ſixteenth of this month alſo to the end of it, we uſe a BRIGHT BROWN, the dubbing for which, is to be had out of a Skinner's Lime-pits, and of the hair of an abortive

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(4) BLUE or VIOLET DUN. Dub with the roots of a Fox-cub's tail, and a very little blue violet worſted, warp with pale yellow ſilk; wing of the pale part of a Starling's feather. Taken from eight to eleven, and from one to three.

This fly, which is alſo called the Aſh-coloured Dun, and Blue Dun, is produced from a Cadis; it is ſo very ſmall that the hook, known at the ſhops by the ſize, N°. 9. *is full big enough for it, if not too big. The ſhape of the fly is exactly the ſame with that of the* Green-Drake. *So early in the year as* February *they will drop on the water before eight in the morning; and Trouts, of the largeſt ſize, as well as ſmall ones, will riſe at them very eagerly.*

Calf,

Calf, which the lime will turn to be ſo bright as to ſhine like gold: for the wings of this flie, the feather of a brown Hen is beſt; which flie is alſo taken till the tenth of *April*.

APRIL.

All the ſame Hackles, and flies that were taken in *March* will be taken in this month alſo, with this diſtinction only concerning the flies, that all the browns be lapt with red ſilk, and the duns with yellow.

1. To theſe a SMALL BRIGHT BROWN, made of Spaniels fur, with a light grey wing; in a bright day, and a clear water is very well taken.

2. We have too a little (5) DARK BROWN, the dubbing of that colour, and ſome violet camlet mixt, and the wing of the grey feather of a Mallard.

3. From the ſixth of this month to the tenth we have alſo a flie call'd the VIOLET-FLIE, made of a dark violet ſtuff, with the wings of the grey feather of a Mallard.

4. About

VARIATIONS.

(5) DARK BROWN. Dub with the Hair of a dark brown Spaniel, or Calf, that looks ruddy by being expoſed to wind and weather, warp with yellow.

Taken from eight to eleven.

This is a good fly, and to be ſeen in moſt rivers; but ſo variable in its hue, as the ſeaſon advances, that it requires the cloſeſt attention to the natural fly, to adapt the materials for making it artificially; which is alſo the caſe with the Violet *or* Aſh-coloured Dun. *When this fly firſt appears, it is nearly of a chocolate colour; from which, by the middle of* May, *it has been obſerved to deviate to almoſt a lemon colour; Northern Anglers call it, by way of eminence, the* Dark Brown; *others call*

4. About the twelfth of this month comes in the flie call'd the WHIRLING DUN (6), which is taken every day about the mid-time of day all this month through, and by fits from thence to the end of *June*, and is commonly made of the down of a Fox-cub, which is of an aſh colour at the roots, next the ſkin, and ribbed about with yellow ſilk, the wings of the pale grey feather of a Mallard.

5. There is alſo a YELLOW DUN (7), the dubbing of Camel's hair, and yellow Camlet, or wool mixt, and a white grey wing.

6. There is alſo, this month, another LITTLE BROWN, beſides that mention'd before, made with a ſlender body, the dubbing of dark brown, and violet camlet mixt, and a grey wing; which, though the direction for the making be near the other, is yet another flie, and will take when the other will not, eſpecially in a bright day, and a clear water.

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call it the Four-winged Brown: *it has four wings lying flat on its back, ſomething longer than the body, which is longiſh, but not taper. This fly muſt be made on a ſmalliſh hook,* viz. N°. 8, *or* 9.

(6) LITTLE WHIRLING DUN. The body Fox-cub, and a little light ruddy brown mixed, warp with grey or ruddy ſilk, a red Hackle under the wing; wing of a Land-rail, or ruddy brown Chicken, which is better.

A killing flie in a bluſtering day, as the Great Whirling Dun *is in the evening, and late at night.*

(7) YELLOW DUN. Dub with a ſmall quantity of pale yellow crewel mixed with Fox-cub-down from the tail, warp with yellow; wing of a paliſh Starling's feather.

Taken from eight to eleven, and from two to four.

See more of the *Yellow Dun* in the Appendix, N°. III.

7. About

7. About the twentieth of this month comes in a flie called the HORSE-FLESH FLIE, the dubbing of which is a blue Mohair, with pink-coloured, and red tammy mixt, a light coloured wing, and a dark brown head. This flie is taken beſt in an Evening, and kills from two hours before Sun ſet till twilight, and is taken the month through.

MAY.

And now, Sir, that we are entering into the month of *May*, I think it requiſite to beg not only your attention, but alſo your beſt patience; for I muſt now be a little tedious with you, and dwell upon this month longer than ordinary; which that you may the better endure, I muſt tell you, this month deſerves and requires to be inſiſted on; foraſmuch as it alone, and the next following, afford more pleaſure to the flie-Angler, than all the reſt: and here it is that you are to expect an account of the *Green-Drake*, and *Stone-flie*, promiſed you ſo long ago, and ſome others that are peculiar to this month, and part of the month following; and that, though not ſo great either in bulk, or name, do yet ſtand in competition with the two before named; and ſo, that it is yet undecided, amongſt the Anglers, to which of the pretenders to the title of the *May*-flie, it does properly, and duly belong; neither dare I, where ſo many of the learned in this art of Angling are got in diſpute about the controverſie, take upon me to determine; but I think I ought to have a vote amongſt them, and according to that privilege, ſhall give you my free opinion, and peradventure when I have told

you

you all, you may incline to think me in the right.

Viat. I have so great a deference to your judgment in these matters, that I must always be of your opinion; and the more you speak the faster I grow to my attention, for I can never be weary of hearing you upon this subject.

Pisc. Why that's encouragement enough; and now prepare yourself for a tedious lecture; but I will first begin with the flies of less esteem, though almost any thing will take a Trout in *May*, that I may afterwards insist the longer upon those of greater note, and reputation; know therefore that the first flie we take notice of in this month, is called

1. The TURKY-FLIE, the dubbing ravelled out of some blue stuff, and lapt about with yellow silk, the wings of a grey Mallard's feather.

2. Next a GREAT HACKLE; OR PALMER-FLIE with a YELLOW BODY ribbed with gold twist, and large wings of a Mallard's feather dyed yellow, with a red Capon's Hackle over all.

3. Then a BLACK FLIE, the dubbing of a black Spaniel's fur, and the wings of a grey Mallard's feather.

4. After that a LIGHT BROWN with a slender body, the dubbing twirled upon small red silk, and raised with the point of a needle, that the ribs or rows of silk may appear through the wings of the grey feather of a Mallard.

5. Next a LITTLE DUN, the dubbing of a Bear's Dun whirled upon yellow silk, the wings of the grey feather of a Mallard.

6. Then a WHITE GNAT, with a pale wing, and a black head.

7. There

7. There is alſo this month a flie called the PEACOCK-FLIE, the body made of a whirl of a Peacock's feather, with a red head, and wings of a Mallard's feather.

8. We have then another very killing flie, known by the name of the DUN-CUT (8) the dubbing of which is a Bear's dun, with a little blue, and yellow mixt with it, a large dun wing, and two horns at the head, made of the hairs of a Squirrel's tail.

9. The next is the COW-LADY, a little flie, the body of a Peacock's feather, the wing of a red feather, or ſtrips of the red hackle of a Cock.

10. We have then the COW-DUNG flie; the dubbing light brown and yellow, mixt, the wing the dark grey feather of a Mallard. And note that beſides theſe abovementioned, all the ſame Hackles and flies, the Hackles only brighter, and the flies ſmaller, that are taken in *April*, will alſo be taken this month, as alſo all Browns, and Duns: and now I come to my *Stone-flie*, and *Green-Drake*, which are the matadores for Trout and Grayling, and in their ſeaſon kill more fiſh in our *Derbyſhire* Rivers, than all the reſt paſt, and to come, in the whole year beſides.

But firſt I am to tell you, that we have four ſeveral flies which contend for the title of the May-flie, namely,

VARIATIONS.

(8) DUN CUT. Dub with Bear's-cub fur, and a little yellow and green crewel, warp with yellow or green; wing of a Land-rail.

Towards the evening of a ſhowery day a great killer.

The GREEN-DRAKE,
The STONE-FLIE,
The BLACK-FLIE, *and*
The LITTLE YELLOW MAY-FLIE.

And all these have their champions and advocates to dispute, and plead their priority; though I do not understand why the two last named should; the first two having so manifestly the advantage, both in their beauty, and the wonderful execution they do in their season.

11. Of these the GREEN-DRAKE comes in about the twentieth of this month, or betwixt that, and the latter end; for they are sometimes sooner, and sometimes later, according to the quality of the year; but never well taken till towards the end of this month, and the beginning of *June*. The *Stone-flie* comes much sooner, so early as the middle of *April*; but is never well taken till towards the middle of *May*, and continues to kill much longer than the *Green-Drake* stays with us, so long as to the end almost of *June*; and indeed, so long as there are any of them to be seen upon the water; and sometimes in an artificial flie, and late at night, or before sun-rise in a morning, longer.

Now both these flies, and, I believe, many others, though I think not all, are certainly and demonstratively bred in the very Rivers where they are taken; our Cadis or Cod-bait which lye under stones in the bottom of the water, most of them turning into those two flies, and being gathered in the husk, or crust, near the time of their maturity, are very easily known, and distinguished,

guiſhed, and are of all other the moſt remarkable, both for their ſize, as being of all other the biggeſt, the ſhorteſt of them being a full inch long, or more; and for the execution they do, the Trout and Grayling being much more greedy of them than of any others; and indeed the Trout never feeds fat, nor comes into his perfect ſeaſon till theſe flies come in.

Of theſe the *Green-Drake* never diſcloſes from his huſk, till he be firſt there grown to full maturity, body, wings, and all; and then he creeps out of his cell, but with his wings ſo crimpt, and ruffled, by being preſt together in that narrow room, that they are, for ſome hours, totally uſeleſs to him; by which means he is compelled either to creep upon the flags, ſedges, and blades of graſs, if his firſt riſing from the bottom of the water be near the banks of the River, till the air and ſun ſtiffen and ſmooth them: or if his firſt appearance above water happen to be in the middle, he then lies upon the ſurface of the water like a ſhip at hull; for his feet are totally uſeleſs to him there, and he cannot creep upon the water as the *Stone-flie* can, until his wings have got ſtiffneſs to fly with, if by ſome Trout, or Grayling he be not taken in the interim, which ten to one he is, and then his wings ſtand high, and cloſed exact upon his back, like the Butterfly, and his motion in flying is the ſame. His body is, in ſome, of a paler, in others, of a darker yellow; for they are not all exactly of a colour, ribbed with rows of green, long, ſlender, and growing ſharp towards the tail, at the end of which he has three long ſmall whiſks of a very dark colour, almoſt black,

black, and his tail turns up towards his back like a Mallard; from whence, queſtionleſs, he has his name of the *Green-Drake*. Theſe, as I think I told you before, we commonly dape, or dibble with, and having gathered great ſtore of them into a long draw box, with holes in the cover to give them air, where alſo they will continue freſh, and vigorous a night or more, we take them out thence by the wings, and bait them thus upon the hook. We firſt take one, for we commonly fiſh with two of them at a time, and putting the point of the hook into the thickeſt part of his body under one of his wings, run it directly through, and out at the other ſide, leaving him ſpitted croſs upon the hook, and then taking the other, put him on after the ſame manner, but with his head the contrary way; in which poſture they will live upon the hook, and play with their wings for a quarter of an hour, or more: but you muſt have a care to keep their wings dry, both from the water, and alſo that your fingers be not wet when you take them out to bait them; for then your bait is ſpoiled.

Having now told you how to angle with this flie alive; I am now to tell you next, how to make an artificial flie, that will ſo perfectly reſemble him, as to be taken in a rough, windy day when no flies can lye upon the water; nor are to be found about the banks and ſides of the River, to a wonder, and with which you ſhall certainly kill the beſt Trout and Grayling in the River.

The artificial *Green-Drake* (9) then, is made upon a large hook, the dubbing, Camel's hair, bright Bear's hair, the ſoft down that is combed from a Hog's briſtles, and yellow Camlet well mixt together, the body long, and ribbed about with green ſilk, or rather yellow, waxed with green wax, the whiſks of the tail, of the long hairs of ſables, or fitchet, and the wings of the white-grey feather of a Mallard, dyed yellow, which alſo is to be dyed thus.

Take the root of a Barbary tree, and ſhave it, and put to it Woody viſs, with as much Alum as a Walnut, and boyl your feathers in it with Rain-water; and they will be of a very fine yellow.

I have now done with the *Green-Drake*, excepting to tell you, that he is taken at all hours during his ſeaſon, whilſt there is any day upon the Sky; and with a made-flie I once took, ten days after he was abſolutely gone, in a cloudy day, after a ſhower, and in a whiſtling wind, five and thirty very great Trouts, and Graylings betwixt five and eight of the clock in the evening, and had no leſs than five or ſix flies, with three good hairs a piece, taken from me in deſpite of my heart, beſides.

VARIATIONS.

(9) GREEN-DRAKE, or MAY FLY. The body of Seal's Fur, or yellow Mohair, a little Fox-cub Down, and Hog's Wool, or light brown from a Turky carpet mixed, warp with pale yellow, pale yellow or red Cock's Hackle under the wings; wings of a Mallard's feather, dyed yellow, three whiſks in his tail from a ſable muff.

Taken all day, but chiefly from two to four in the afternoon.

12. I ſhould now come next to the *Stone-flie*, but there is another gentleman in my way, that muſt of neceſſity come in between, and that is the GREY-DRAKE, which in all ſhapes, and dimenſions is perfectly the ſame with the other, but quite almoſt of another colour, being of a paler, and more livid yellow, and green, and ribbed with black quite down his body, with black, ſhining wings, and ſo diaphanous and tender, cob-web like, that they are of no manner of uſe for daping; but come in, and are taken after the *Green-Drake*, and in an artificial flie kill very well, which flie is thus made (10), the dubbing of the down of a Hog's briſtles, and black Spaniel's fur, mixed, and ribbed down the body with black ſilk, the whiſks of the hairs of the beard of a black Cat, and the wings of the black grey feather of a Mallard.

And now I come to the STONE-FLIE, but am afraid I have already wearied your patience, which if I have, I beſeech you freely tell me ſo, and I will defer the remaining inſtructions for Flie-Angling till ſome other time.

Viat. No truly, Sir, I can never be weary of hearing you: but if you think fit, becauſe I am afraid I am too troubleſom, to refreſh yourſelf with a glaſs and a pipe; you may afterwards proceed, and I ſhall be exceedingly pleaſed to hear you.

VARIATIONS.

(10) GREY-DRAKE. The body of an abſolute white Oſtrich feather; the end of the body towards the tail of Peacock's Herl; warping of aſh colour with ſilver Twiſt and black Hackle, wing of a dark grey feather of a Mallard.

A very killing fly, eſpecially towards the evening, when the fiſh are glutted with the Green-Drake.

Pisc. I thank you, Sir, for that motion; for believe me I am dry with talking: here, boy, give us here a bottle, and a glass; and Sir, my service to you, and to all our friends in the *South*.

Viat. Your, servant Sir, and I'll pledge you as heartily; for the good powdered beef I eat at dinner, or something else, has made me thirsty.

CHAP. VIII.

VIATOR.

SO, Sir, I am now ready for another lesson so soon as you please to give it me.

Pisc. And I, Sir, as ready to give you the best I can. Having told you the time of the *Stone-flie*'s coming in, and that he is bred of a Cadis, in the very river where he is taken, I am next to tell you, that,

13. This same *Stone-flie* has not the patience to continue in his crust, or husk, till his wings be full grown; but so soon as ever they begin to put out, that he feels himself strong, at which time we call him a *Jack*, squeezes himself out of prison, and crawls to the top of some stone, where if he can find a chink that will receive him, or can creep betwixt two stones, the one lying hollow upon the other, which, by the way, we also lay so purposely to find them; he there lurks till his wings be full grown, and there is your only place to find him, and from thence doubtless he derives his

his name; though, for want of such convenience, he will make shift with the hollow of a Bank, or any other place where the wind cannot come to fetch him off. His body is long, and pretty thick, and as broad at the tail almost, as in the middle; his colour a very fine brown, ribbed with yellow, and much yellower on the belly than the back; he has two or three whisks also at the tag of his tail, and two little horns upon his head; his wings, when full grown, are double, and flat down his back, of the same colour, but rather darker than his body, and longer than it; though he makes but little use of them; for you shall rarely see him flying, though often swimming and padling with several feet he has under his belly, upon the water, without stirring a wing: but the *Drake* will mount steeple high into the air, though he is to be found upon flags and grass too, and indeed every where high and low, near the river; their being so many of them in their season, as were they not a very inoffensive insect, would look like a plague; and these *Drakes*, since I forgot to tell you before, I will tell you here, are taken by the fish to that incredible degree, that, upon a calm day, you shall see the still deeps continually all over circles by the fishes' rising, who will gorge themselves with those flies, till they purge again out of their guills; and the trouts are at that time so lusty and strong, that one of eight, or ten inches long, will then more struggle, and tug, and more endanger your tackle, than one twice as big in winter: but pardon this digression.

This *Stone-Flie* then, we dape or dibble with, as with the *Drake*, but with this diffe-

rence, that whereas the *Green-Drake* is common both to ſtream and ſtill, and to all hours of the day, we ſeldom dape with this but in the ſtreams (for in a whiſtling wind a made-Flie in the deep is better) and rarely but early and late, it not being ſo proper for the mid-time of the day; though a great Grayling will then take it very well in a ſharp ſtream, and here and there a Trout too: but much better towards eight, nine, ten, or eleven of the clock at night, at which time alſo the beſt Fiſh riſe, and the later the better, provided you can ſee your Flie, and when you cannot, a made-Flie will murder, which is to be made thus: The dubbing of bear's dun with a little brown and yellow camlet very well mixed; but ſo placed that your Flie may be more yellow on the belly and towards the tail underneath, than in any other part, and you are to place two or three hairs of a black cat's beard on the top of the hook in your arming, ſo as to be turned up, when you warp on your dubbing, and to ſtand almoſt upright, and ſtaring one from another, and note that your Flie is to be ribbed with yellow ſilk, and the wings long, and very large, of the dark grey feather of a mallard.

14. The next *May-Flie* is the BLACK-FLIE, made with a black body, of the whirle of an Oſtridge-feather, ribbed with ſilver twiſt, and the black hackle of a Cock over all; and is a killing Flie, but not to be named with either of the other.

15. The laſt *May-Flie*, that is of the four pretenders, is the LITTLE YELLOW MAY-FLIE, in ſhape exactly the ſame with the *Green-Drake*, but a very little one, and of as bright a yellow

yellow as can be ſeen, which is made of a bright yellow camlet, and the wings of a white grey feather died yellow.

16. The laſt Flie for this month, and which continues all *June*, though it comes in the middle of *May*, is the Flie called the CAMLET-FLIE, in ſhape like a moth, with fine diapred, or water wings, and with which, as I told you before, I ſometimes uſed to dibble; and Grayling will riſe mightily at it. But the artificial Flie, which is only in uſe amongſt our Anglers, is made of a dark brown ſhining camlet, ribbed over with a very ſmall light green ſilk, the wings of the double grey feather of a mallard; and 'tis a killing Flie for ſmall Fiſh, and ſo much for *May*.

JUNE.

From the firſt to the four and twentieth, the *Green-Drake* and *Stone-flie*, are taken as I told you before.

1. From the twelfth to the four and twentieth late at night, is taken a Flie, called the OWL-FLIE, (11) the dubbing of a white weaſel's tail, and a white-grey wing.

2. We have then another Dun, called the BARM-FLIE, from its yeſty colour, the dubbing of the fur of a yellow dun cat, and a grey wing of a mallard's feather.

VARIATIONS.

(11) WHITE-MILLER, or OWL-FLIE. The body of white Oſtrich Herl, white Hackle and ſilver Twiſt, if you pleaſe; wing of the white feather of a tame Duck.

Taken from ſun-ſet 'till ten at night, and from two to four in the morning.

3. We have alſo a HACKLE with a PURPLE BODY, whipt about with a red capon's feather.

4. As alſo a GOLD-TWIST HACKLE with a purple body, whipt about with a red capon's feather.

5. To theſe we have this month a FLESH-FLIE, the dubbing of a black ſpaniel's furre, and blue wool mixed, and a grey wing.

6. Alſo another little Fleſh-flie, the body made of the whirle of a Peacock's feather, and the wings of the grey feather of a Drake.

7. We have then the PEACOCK-FLIE, the body and wing both made of the feather of that bird.

8. There is alſo the flying-ant, or ANT-FLIE, the dubbing of brown and red camlet mixed, with a light grey wing.

9. We have likewiſe a BROWN GNAT, with a very ſlender body of brown and violet camlet well mixed, and a light grey wing.

10. And another little BLACK GNAT (12), the dubbing of black mohair, and a white-grey wing.

11. As alſo a GREEN GRASHOPPER, the dubbing of green and yellow wool mixed, ribbed over with green ſilk, and a red capon's feather over all.

12. And laſtly, a little DUN GRASHOPPER, the body ſlender made of a dun camlet, and a dun hackle at the top.

VARIATIONS.

(12) BLACK GNAT. The body extremely ſmall, of black Mohair, Spaniel's or Oſtrich feather; wing of the lighteſt part of a Starling or Mallard's feather.

A very killing fly in an evening, after a ſhower, in rapid rivers; as in Derbyſhire *or* Wales.

JULY.

JULY.

First all the ſmall flies that were taken in *June*, are alſo taken in this month.

1. We have then the ORANGE-FLIE (13), the dubbing of orange wool, and the wing of a black feather.

2. Alſo a little WHITE DUN, the body made of white mohair, and the wings blue, of a heron's feather.

3. We have likewiſe this month a WASP-FLIE, made either of a dark brown dubbing, or elſe the fur of a black cat's tail, ribbed about with yellow ſilk, and the wing of the grey feather of a mallard.

4. Another flie taken this month is a BLACK HACKLE, the body made of the whirle of a peacock's feather, and a black hackle-feather on the top.

5. We have alſo another, made of a peacock's whirle without wings.

6. Another flie alſo is taken this month, called the SHELL-FLIE, the dubbing of yellow-green Jerſey wool, and a little white hog's hair mixed, which I call the *Palm-flie*, and do believe it is taken for a palm, that drops off the willows into the water; for this flie I have ſeen Trouts take little pieces of moſs, as they have ſwam

VARIATIONS.

(13) ORANGE-FLY. The body of raw Orange ſilk, with a red or black Hackle; gold Twiſt may be added, warp with Orange.

Taken when the May-Fly *is almoſt over, and alſo to the end of* June, *eſpecially in hot, gloomy weather.*

down

down the river, by which I conclude that the beſt way to hit the right colour, is to compare your dubbing with the moſs, and mix the colours as near as you can.

7. There is alſo taken this month, a BLACK BLUE DUN, the dubbing of the fur of a black rabbet mixt with a little yellow, the wings of the feather of a blue pigeon's wing.

AUGUST.

The ſame flies with *July*.

1. Then another ANT-FLIE, the dubbing of the black-brown hair of a Cow, ſome red warpt in for the tagg of his tail, and a dark wing, a killing flie.

2. Next a flie call'd the FERN-FLIE, the dubbing of the fur of a Hare's neck, that is of the colour of Fern, or Brackin, with a darkiſh-grey wing of a Mallard's feather, a killer too.

3. Beſides theſe we have a WHITE HACKLE, the body of white Mohair, and warped about with a white Hackle-feather, and this is aſſuredly taken for Thiſtle-down.

4. We have alſo this month a HARRY-LONG-LEGS (14), the body made of Bear's dun, and blue Wool mixt, and a brown Hackle-feather over all.

VARIATIONS.

(14) HARRY LONG-LEGS. Made of lightiſh Bear's hair, and a dunniſh-Hackle; add a few hairs of light blue Mohair and a little Fox-cub down, warp with light grey or pale blue ſilk; the head large.

Taken chiefly in a cloudy windy day. I have formerly, in the rivers near London, *had great Succeſs, fiſhing with a long line, and the head of this inſect only.*

Laſtly,

Laſtly, In this month all the ſame browns and duns are taken, that were taken in *May*.

SEPTEMBER.

This month the ſame flies are taken, that are taken in *April*.

1. To which I ſhall only add a CAMEL-BROWN flie, the dubbing pulled out of the lime of a wall, whipt about with red ſilk, and a darkiſh-grey Mallard's feather for the wing.

2. And one other for which we have no name; but it is made of the black hair of a Badger's ſkin mixed with the yellow ſofteſt down of a ſanded Hog.

OCTOBER.

The ſame flies are taken this month, that were taken in *March*.

NOVEMBER.

The ſame flies that were taken in *February*, are taken this month alſo.

DECEMBER.

Few Men angle with the flie this month, no more than they do in *January*: but yet if the weather be warm, as I have known it ſometimes in my life to be, even in this cold country, where it is leaſt expected, then a brown that looks red in the hand, and yellowiſh betwixt your eye and the Sun, will both raiſe and kill in a clear wa-

ter,

ter, and free from ſnow-broth: but at the beſt 'tis hardly worth a man's labour *.

And now, Sir, I have done with flie-fiſhing, or angling at the top, excepting once more to tell you, that of all theſe, and I have named you a great many killing flies, none are fit to be compared with the *Drake* and *Stone flie*, both for

* As the foregoing directions mention only the *materials* for making the ſeveral flies, the reader may yet be at a loſs both with reſpect to their form and ſize; therefore we have, in Plate XI. given the five which may be conſidered as radical flies; and they are, the *Palmer*, Fig. 11, the *Green-Drake*, 12, the *Dun-Cut*, 13, the *Hawthorn Fly*, 14, and the *Ant Fly*, 15. The two firſt are each a ſpecies by itſelf; the third is a horned fly; the fourth has hackle under his wings; and the fifth, as moſt flies of the Ant-kind have, has a large bottle-tail; and to one or other of theſe figures it is imagined all flies are reducible.

In adjuſting their different ſizes it muſt be owned there is great difficulty; all that can be ſaid is, that the figures 11 and 12, exhibit the uſual ſize of the *Palmer*, the *Green* and *Grey-Drake:* Fig. 13, may ſerve as a ſpecimen for moſt flies that are not directed to be made large; and when directions are given to make the fly ſmall, the reader is to conſider Fig. 14, as an example. Gnats cannot be made too ſmall.

Some, in making a fly, work it upon, and faſten it immediately to, the hook-link, whether it be of gut, graſs, or hair: others whip on the ſhank of the hook, a ſtiff Hog's briſtle bent into a loop; and concerning theſe methods there are different opinions.

I confeſs the latter, except for ſmall flies, ſeems to me the more elegible way; and it has this advantage, that it enables you to keep your flies in excellent order; to do which, ſtring them, each ſpecies ſeparately, through the loops, upon a fine piece of cat-gut, of about ſeven inches long, and ſtring alſo thereon, through a large pin-hole, a very ſmall ticket of parchment, with the name of the fly wrote on it; tie the cat-gut into a ring, and lay them in round flat boxes,

with

for many and very great fiſh; and yet there are ſome days, that are by no means proper for the ſport, and in a calm you ſhall not have near ſo much ſport even with daping, as in a whiſtling gale of wind, for two reaſons, both becauſe you are not ſo eaſily diſcovered by the fiſh, and alſo becauſe there are then but few flies that can lye upon the water; for where they have ſo much choice, you may eaſily imagine they will not be ſo eager and forward to riſe at a bait, that both the ſhadow of your body, and that of your rod, nay, of your very line, in a hot, calm day, will, in ſpite of your beſt caution, render ſuſpected to them: But even then in ſwift ſtreams, or by ſitting down patiently behind a willow buſh, you ſhall do more execution than at almoſt any other time of the year with any other flie, though one may ſometimes hit of a day, when he ſhall come home very well ſatisfied with ſport with ſeveral other flies: But with theſe two, the *Green-Drake* and the *Stone-flie*, I do verily believe I could ſome days in my life, had I not been weary of ſlaughter, have loaden a luſty boy, and have ſometimes, I do honeſtly aſſure you, given over upon the the meer account of ſatiety of ſport; which will be no hard matter to believe when I likewiſe aſ-

with paper between each ring; and when you uſe them, having a neat loop at the lower-end of your hook-link, you may put them on and take them off at pleaſure.

In the other way, you are troubled with a great length of hook-link, which, if you put even but few flies together, is ſure to tangle, and occaſion great trouble and loſs of time. And as to an objection which ſome make to a loop, that the fiſh ſee it, and therefore will not take the fly; you may be aſſured there is nothing in it.

ſure you, that with this very flie, I have in this very River that runs by us, in three or four hours taken thirty, five and thirty, and forty of the beſt Trouts in the River. What ſhame and pity is it then, that ſuch a River ſhould be deſtroyed by the baſeſt ſort of people, by thoſe unlawful ways of fire and netting in the night, and of damming, groping, ſpearing, hanging and hooking by day, which are now grown ſo common, that, though we have very good laws to puniſh ſuch offenders, every raſcal does it, for aught I ſee, *impunè*.

To conclude, I cannot now in honeſty but frankly tell you, that many of theſe flies I have named, at leaſt ſo made as we make them here, will peradventure do you no great ſervice in your *ſouthern* rivers *, and will not conceal from you, but that I have ſent flies to ſeveral friends in *London*, that for aught I could ever hear, never did

* The reader may depend on this liſt of flies, and reſt aſſured, that with ſome or other of theſe flies, eſpecially with the *Palmers* or *Hackles*, the *Great Dun*, *Dark-brown*, *early* and *late Bright-brown*, the *Black Gnat*, *Yellow Dun*, *Great Whirling Dun*, *Dun-cut*, *Green*, and *Grey Drake*, *Camlet-Fly*, *Cow-dung-Fly*, *Little Ant-Fly*, *Badger-Fly*, and *Fern-Fly*, he ſhall catch Trout, Grayling, Chub and Dace, in any water in *England* or *Wales*; always remembring, that, in a ſtrange water, he firſt tries the plain, gold, ſilver, and Peacock-Hackle: of the truth of this he need not doubt, when he is told, that, in the year 1754, a Gentleman, now living, who went into *Wales* to fiſh with the flies abovementioned, made as above is directed by Mr. *Herro*, beforementioned, did, in about ſix weeks time, kill near a thouſand brace of Trout and Grayling, as appeared to him by an account, in writing, which he kept of each day's ſucceſs.

any

any great feats with them, and therefore if you intend to profit by my inſtructions, you muſt come to angle with me here in the *Peak*; and ſo, if you pleaſe, let us walk up to ſupper, and to-morrow, if the day be windy, as our days here commonly are, 'tis ten to one but we ſhall take a good diſh of fiſh for dinner.

CHAP. IX.

PISCATOR.

A Good day to you, Sir,; I ſee you will always be ſtirring before me.

Viat. Why, to tell you the truth, I am ſo allured with the ſport I had yeſterday, that I long to be at the river again, and when I heard the wind ſing in my chamber window, could forbear no longer, but leap out of bed, and had juſt made an end of dreſſing my ſelf, as you came in.

Piſc. Well, I am both glad you are ſo ready for the day, and that the day is ſo fit for you, and look you I have made you three or four flies this morning; this ſilver-twiſt hackle, this bear's dun, this light brown, and this dark brown, any of which I dare ſay will do; but you may try them all, and ſee which does beſt, only I muſt aſk your pardon that I cannot wait upon you this Morning, a little buſineſs being fallen out, that for two or three hours, will deprive me of your company: but I'll come and call you home to dinner, and my man ſhall attend you.

Viat.

Viat. Oh Sir, mind your affairs by all means, do but lend me a little of your ſkill to theſe fine flies, and unleſs it have forſaken me ſince yeſterday, I ſhall find luck of my own I hope to do ſomething.

Piſc. The beſt inſtruction I can give you, is that, ſeeing the wind curles the water, and blows the right way, you would now angle up the ſtill deep to-day; for betwixt the rocks where the ſtreams are, you would find it now too briſk, and beſides I would have you take fiſh in both waters.

Viat. I'll obey your direction, and ſo a good morning to you. Come young man, let you and I walk together. But hark you, Sir, I have not done with you yet; I expect another leſſon for angling at the bottom, in the afternoon.

Piſc. Well, Sir, I'll be ready for you.

CHAP. X.

PISCATOR.

O H Sir, are you return'd? you have but juſt prevented me. I was coming to call you.

Viat. I am glad then I have ſaved you the labour.

Piſc. And how have you ſped.

Viat. You ſhall ſee that, Sir, preſently; look you, Sir, here are three * brace of Trouts, one of them the biggeſt but one, that ever I kill'd with a flie in my life, and yet I loſt a bigger

* *Spoke like a South-Country-man.*

bigger than that, with my flie to boot, and here are three Graylings, and one of them longer by ſome inches than that I took yeſterday, and yet I thought that a good one too.

Piſc. Why you have made a pretty good mornings work on't, and now Sir, what think you of our river *Dove?*

Viat. I think it to be the beſt Trout-river in *England*; and am ſo far in love with it, that if it were mine, and that I could keep it to my ſelf, I would not exchange that water, for all the Land it runs over; to be totally debarred from it.

Piſc. That Complement to the river, ſpeaks you a true lover of the art of angling: and now, Sir, to make part of amends for ſending you ſo uncivilly out alone this morning, I will myſelf dreſs you this diſh of fiſh for your dinner, walk but into the parlour, you will find one book or other in the window to entertain you the while, and you ſhall have it preſently.

Viat. Well Sir, I obey you.

Piſc. Look you Sir, have I not made haſte?

Viat. Believe me Sir, that you have, and it looks ſo well, I long to be at it.

Piſc. Fall too then; now, Sir, what ſay you, am I a tolerable cook or no?

Viat. So good a one, that I did never eat ſo good fiſh in my life. This fiſh is infinitely better, than any I ever taſted of the kind in my life. 'Tis quite another thing, than our Trouts about *London.*

Piſc. You would ſay ſo, if that Trout you eat of were in right ſeaſon: but pray eat of the Grayling, which upon my word at this time, is by much the better fiſh.

Viat. In earneſt, and ſo it is: and I have one requeſt to make to you, which is, that as you have taught me to catch Trout and Grayling, you will now teach me how to dreſs them as theſe are dreſt, which queſtionleſs is of all other the beſt way.

Pisc. That I will Sir, with all my heart, and am glad you like them ſo well, as to make that requeſt, and they are dreſt thus.

Take your Trout, waſh, and dry him with a clean napkin; then open him, and having taken out his guts, and all the blood, wipe him very clean within, but waſh him not, and give him three ſcotches with a knife to the bone, on one ſide only. After which take a clean kettle, and put in as much hard ſtale beer, (but it muſt not be dead) vinegar, and a little whitewine, and water, as will cover the fiſh you intend to boyl; then throw into the liquor a good quantity of ſalt, the rind of a lemon, a handful of ſliced horſe-radiſh-root, with a handſome little fagot of roſemary, time, and winter-ſavory. Then ſet your kettle upon a quick fire of wood, and let your liquor boyl up to the height before you put in your fiſh; and then, if there be many, put them in one by one, that they may not ſo cool the liquor, as to make it fall; and whilſt your fiſh is boyling, beat up the butter for your ſauce with a ladle-full or two of the liquor it is boyling in, and being boyled enough, immediately pour the liquor from the fiſh, and being laid in a diſh, pour your butter upon it, and ſtrewing it plentifully over with ſhaved horſe-radiſh, and a little pounded ginger, garniſh your ſides of your diſh, and the fiſh itſelf with a ſliced lemon, or two, and ſerve it up.

A Grayling is alſo to be dreſt exactly after the ſame manner, ſaving that he is to be ſcaled, which a Trout never is: and that muſt be done either with ones nails, or very lightly and carefully with a knife for bruiſing the fiſh. And note, that theſe kinds of fiſh, a Trout eſpecially, if he is not eaten within four, or five hours after he be taken, is worth nothing.

But come Sir, I ſee you have dined and therefore if you pleaſe we will walk down again to the little houſe, and there I will read you a lecture of Angling at the bottom.

CHAP. XI.

VIATOR.

SO, Sir, now we are here, and ſet, let me have my inſtructions for Angling for Trout, and Grayling at the bottom; which though not ſo eaſy, ſo cleanly, nor, as 'tis ſaid, ſo gentile a way of fiſhing, as with a flie; is yet, if I miſtake not, a good holding way and takes fiſh when nothing elſe will.

Piſc. You are in the right, it does ſo: and a worm is ſo ſure a bait at all times, that, excepting in a flood, I would I had laid thouſand pounds that I killed fiſh more, or leſs with it, winter or ſummer every day throughout the year; thoſe days always excepted, that, upon a more ſerious account always ought ſo to be. But not longer to delay you, I will begin, and tell you, that Angling at the bottom is alſo commonly of two ſorts, and yet there is a third way of Angling with a ground-bait, and to very

great effect too, as ſhall be ſaid hereafter, namely, by hand, or with a cork or float.

That we call Angling by hand is of three ſorts.

The firſt with a line about half the length of the rod, a good weighty plum, and three hairs next the hook, which we call a running line, and with one large brandling, or a dew-worm of a moderate ſize, or two ſmall ones of the firſt, or any other ſort, proper for a Trout, of which my father *Walton* has already given you the names, and ſaved me a labour; or indeed almoſt any worm whatever; for if a Trout be in the humour to bite, it muſt be ſuch a worm as I never yet ſaw, that he will refuſe; and if you fiſh with two, you are then to bait your hook thus. You are firſt to run the point of your hook in at the very head of your firſt worm, and ſo down through his body 'till it be 'paſt the knot, and then let it out, and ſtrip the worm above the arming that you may not bruiſe it with your fingers till you have put on the other by running the point of the hook in below the knot, and upwards through his body towards his head till it be but juſt covered with the head, which being done, you are then to ſlip the firſt worm down over the arming again, till the knots of both worms meet together.

The ſecond way of Angling by hand, and with a running line, is with a line ſomething longer than the former, and with tackle made after this ſame manner. At the utmoſt extremity of your line, where the hook is always placed in all other ways of Angling, you are to have a large piſtol, or carbine bullet, into which the end of your line is to be faſtened with a peg, or

pin

pin even and close with the bullet, and about half a foot above that, a branch of line, of two, or three handfuls long or more, for a swift stream, with a hook at the end thereof baited with some of the forenamed worms, and another half foot above that, another, armed and baited after the same manner; but with another sort of worm, without any lead at all above: by which means you will always certainly find the true bottom in all depths, which with the plums upon your line above you can never do, but that your bait must always drag whilst you are sounding, which in this way of Angling must be continually, by which means you are like to have more trouble, and peradventure worse success. And both these ways of Angling at the bottom are most proper for a dark, and muddy water, by reason that in such a condition of the stream, a man may stand as near as he will, and neither his own shadow, nor the roundness of his tackle will hinder his sport.

The third way of Angling by hand with a ground-bait, and by much the best of all other, is, with a line full as long, or a yard and a half longer than your rod, with no more than one hair next the hook, and for two or three lengths above it, and no more than one small pellet of shot for your plum, your hook little, your worms of the smaller brandlings very well scoured, and only one upon your hook at a time, which is thus to be baited. The point of your hook is to be put in at the very tagg of his tail, and run up his body quite over all the arming, and still stript on an inch at least upon the hair, the head and remaining part hanging downward;

and with this line and hook thus baited you are evermore to angle in the ſtreams, always in a clear rather than a troubled water, and always up the river, ſtill caſting out your worm before you with a light one-handed rod, like an artificial flie, where it will be taken, ſometimes at the top, or within a very little of the ſuperficies of the water, and almoſt always before that light plumb can ſink it to the bottom, both by reaſon of the ſtream, and alſo that you muſt always keep your worm in motion by drawing ſtill back towards you, as if you were angling with a flie; and believe me, whoever will try it, ſhall find this the beſt way of all other to angle with a worm, in a bright water eſpecially; but then his rod muſt be very light and pliant, and very true and finely made, which with a ſkilful hand will do wonders, and in a clear ſtream is undoubtedly the beſt way of angling for a Trout, or Grayling with a worm, by many degrees, that any man can make choice of, and of moſt eaſe and delight to the Angler. To which let me add, that if the Angler be of a conſtitution that will ſuffer him to wade, and will ſlip into the tail of a ſhallow ſtream, to the calf of the leg or the knee, and ſo keep off the bank, he ſhall almoſt take what fiſh he pleaſes.

The ſecond way of angling at the bottom is with a cork or float; and that is alſo of two ſorts; with a Worm, or with a Grub or Cadis.

With a worm you are to have your line within a foot, or a foot and half as long as your rod, in a dark water with two, or if you will with three, but in a clear water never with above one hair next the hook, and two or three for

four

four or five lengths above it, and a worm of what ſize you pleaſe, your plums fitted to your cork, your cork to the condition of the River, that is to the ſwiftneſs or ſlowneſs of it, and both, when the water is very clear, as fine as you can, and then you are never to bait with above one of the leſſer ſort of brandlings; or, if they are very little ones indeed, you may then bait with two after the manner before directed.

When you angle for a Trout, you are to do it as deep, that is, as near the bottom as you can, provided your bait do not drag, or if it do, a Trout will ſometimes take it in that poſture: If for a Grayling, you are then to fiſh further from the bottom, he being a fiſh that uſually ſwims nearer to the middle of the water, and lyes always looſe, or however is more apt to riſe than a Trout, and more inclined to riſe than to deſcend even to a ground-bait.

With a grub or cadis, you are to angle with the ſame length of line; or if it be all out as long as your rod, 'tis not the worſe, with never above one hair for two or three lengths next the hook, and with the ſmalleſt cork, or float, and the leaſt weight of plumb you can that will but ſink, and that the ſwiftneſs of your ſtream will allow; which alſo you may help, and avoid the violence of the current, by angling in the returns of a ſtream, or the eddies betwixt two ſtreams, which alſo are the moſt likely places wherein to kill a fiſh in a ſtream, either at the top or bottom.

Of grubs for a Grayling, the aſh-grub, which is plump, milk-white, bent round from head to tail, and exceeding tender, with a red head; or the dock-worm, or grub of a pale yellow, longer,

lanker, and tougher than the other, with rows of feet all down his belly, and a red head alſo are the beſt, I ſay for a Grayling, becauſe, although a Trout will take both theſe, the aſh-grub eſpecially, yet he does not do it ſo freely as the other, and I have uſually taken ten Graylings for one Trout with that bait, though if a Trout come, I have obſerved, that he is commonly a very good one.

Theſe baits we uſually keep in bran, in which an aſh-grub commonly grows tougher, and will better endure baiting, though he is yet ſo tender, that it will be neceſſary to warp in a piece of a ſtiff hair with your arming, leaving it ſtanding out about a ſtraw breadth at the head of your hook, ſo as to keep the grub either from ſlipping totally off when baited, or at leaſt down to the point of the hook, by which means your arming will be left wholly naked and bare, which is neither ſo ſightly, nor ſo likely to be taken; though to help that, which will however very oft fall out, I always arm the hook I deſign for this bait with the whiteſt horſe-hair I can chuſe, which it ſelf will reſemble, and ſhine like that bait, and conſequently will do more good, or leſs harm than an arming of any other colour. Theſe grubs are to be baited thus, the hook is to be put in under the head or chaps of the bait, and guided down the middle of the belly without ſuffering it to peep out by the way, for then the aſh-grub eſpecially, will iſſue out water and milk, till nothing but the ſkin ſhall remain, and the bend of the hook will appear black through it, till the point of your hook come ſo low that the head of your bait may reſt, and ſtick upon the

the hair that ſtands out to hold it, by which means it can neither ſlip of itſelf, neither will the force of the ſtream, nor quick pulling out, upon any miſtake, ſtrip it off.

Now the cadis, or cod-bait, which is a ſure killing bait, and for the moſt part, by much, ſurer, than either of the other, may be put upon the hook, two or three together, and is ſometimes, to very great effect, joyned to a worm, and ſometimes to an artificial flie to cover the point of the hook; but is always to be angled with at the bottom, when by itſelf eſpecially, with the fineſt tackle; and is for all times of the year, the moſt holding bait of all other whatever, both for Trout, and Grayling.

There are ſeveral other baits beſides theſe few I have named you, which alſo do very great execution at the bottom, and ſome that are peculiar to certain countries and rivers, of which every Angler may in his own place make his own obſervation; and ſome others that I do not think fit to put you in mind of, becauſe I would not corrupt you, and would have you as in all things elſe I obſerve you to be, a very honeſt gentleman, a fair Angler. And ſo much for the ſecond ſort or angling for a Trout at the bottom.

Viat. But, Sir, I beſeech you give me leave to aſk you one queſtion, Is there no art to be uſed to worms, to make them allure the fiſh, and in a manner to compel them to bite at the bait?

Piſc. Not that I know of; or did I know any ſuch ſecret, I would not uſe it myſelf, and therefore would not teach it you. Though I will not deny to you, that in my younger days, I have made tryal of Oyl of Oſpray, Oyl of Ivy, Camphire,

phire, *Assa-fœtida*, Juice of Nettles, and several other devices that I was taught by several Anglers I met with, but could never find any advantage by them; and can scarce believe there is any thing to be done that way, though I must tell you I have seen some men, who I thought went to work no more artificially than I, and have yet with the same kind of worms I had, in my own sight taken five, and sometimes ten for one. But we'll let that business alone if you please, and because we have time enough, and that I would deliver you from the trouble of any more lectures, I will if you please, proceed to the last way of Angling for a Trout or Grayling, which is in the middle; after which I shall have no more to trouble you with.

Viat. 'Tis no trouble, Sir, but the greatest satisfaction that can be, and I attend you.

CHAP. XII.

PISCATOR.

ANgling in the middle then, for a Trout or Grayling is of two sorts; with a Pink or Minnow for a Trout, or with a Worm, Grub or Cadis for a Grayling.

For the first, it is with a Minnow half a foot, or a foot within the superficies of the water, and as to the rest that concerns this sort of Angling, I shall wholly refer you to Mr. *Walton*'s direction, who is undoubtedly the best Angler with a Minnow in *England*; only in plain truth I do not approve

prove of thoſe baits he keeps in ſalt, unleſs where the living ones are not poſſibly to be had; though I know he frequently kills with them, and peradventure more, than with any other, nay I have ſeen him refuſe a living one for one of them, and much leſs of his artificial one; for though we do it with a counterfeit flie, methinks it ſhould hardly be expected, that a man ſhould deceive a fiſh with a counterfeit fiſh. Which having ſaid, I ſhall only add, and that out of my own experience, that I do believe a Bull-head, with his guill-fins cut off, at ſome times of the year eſpecially, to be a much better bait for a Trout, than a Minnow, and a Loach much better than that, to prove which I ſhall only tell you that I have much oftner taken Trouts with a Bull-head or a Loach in their throats, for there a Trout has queſtionleſs his firſt digeſtion, than a Minnow; and that one Day eſpecially, having Angled a good part of the day with a Minnow, and that in as hopeful a day, and as fit a water, as could could be wiſht for that purpoſe, without raiſing any one fiſh; I at laſt fell to it with the worm, and with that took fourteen in a very ſhort ſpace, amongſt all which, there was not to my remembrance, ſo much as one, that had not a Loach or two, and ſome of them three, four, five, and ſix Loaches, in his throat and ſtomach; from whence I concluded, that had I Angled with that bait, I had made a notable day's work of it.

But after all, there is a better way of Angling with a Minnow, than perhaps is fit either to teach or to practice; to which I ſhall only add, that a Grayling will certainly riſe at, and ſometimes take a Minnow, though it will be hard to be believed

lieved by any one, who ſhall conſider the littleneſs of that fiſh's mouth, very unfit to take ſo great a bait: but is affirmed by many, that he will ſometimes do it, and I my ſelf know it to be true, for though I never took a Grayling ſo, yet a man of mine once did, and within ſo few paces of me, that I am as certain of it, as I can be of any thing I did not ſee, which made it appear the more ſtrange, the Grayling was not above eleven inches long.

I muſt here alſo beg leave of your maſter, and mine, not to controvert, but to tell him, that I cannot conſent to his way of throwing in his rod to an overgrown Trout, and afterwards recovering his fiſh with his tackle. For though I am ſatisfied he has ſometimes done it, becauſe he ſays ſo; yet I have found it quite otherwiſe, and though I have taken with the Angle, I may ſafely ſay, ſome thouſands of Trouts in my life, my top never ſnapt, though my line ſtill continued faſt to the remaining part of my rod, by ſome lengths of line curled round about my top, and there faſtned with waxt ſilk, againſt ſuch an accident, nor my hand never ſlackt, or ſlipt by any other chance, but I almoſt always infallibly loſt my fiſh, whether great, or little, though my hook came home again. And I have often wondered how a Trout ſhould ſo ſuddenly diſengage himſelf from ſo great a hook, as that we bait with a Minnow, and ſo deep bearded, as thoſe hooks commonly are, when I have ſeen by the forenamed accidents, or the ſlipping of a knot in the upper part of the line, by ſudden, and hard ſtriking, that though the line has immediately been recovered, almoſt before it could be all

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drawn into the water, the fiſh cleared, and gone in a moment. And yet to juſtify what he ſays, I have ſometimes known a Trout, having carried away a whole line, found dead, three or four days after, with the hook faſt ſticking in him: but then it is to be ſuppoſed he had gorged it, which a Trout will do, if you be not too quick with him when he comes at a Minnow, as ſure and much ſooner than a Pike; and I my ſelf have alſo, once or twice in my life, taken the ſame fiſh with my own flie ſticking in his chaps, that he had taken from me the day before, by the ſlipping of a hook in the arming; but I am very confident a Trout will not be troubled two hours with any hook, that has ſo much as one handful of line left behind with it, or that is not ſtruck through a bone, if it be in any part of his mouth only; nay, I do certainly know, that a Trout ſo ſoon as ever he feels himſelf prickt, if he carries away the hook, goes immediately to the bottom, and will there root like a Hog upon the gravel, till he either rub out, or break the hook in the middle. And ſo much for this firſt ſort of Angling in the middle for a Trout.

The ſecond way of Angling in the middle, is with a worm, grub, cadis, or any other ground-bait for a Grayling, and that is with a Cork, and a foot from the bottom, a Grayling taking it much better there, than at the bottom, as has been ſaid before; and this always in a clear water, and with the fineſt tackle.

To which we may alſo, and with very good reaſon, add the third way of Angling by hand with a ground-bait, as a third way of fiſhing in

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the middle, which is common to both Trout, and Grayling, and as I ſaid before, the beſt way of Angling with a worm, of all other I ever tryed whatever.

And now, Sir, I have ſaid all I can at preſent think of concerning Angling for a Trout and Grayling; and I doubt not, have tired you ſufficiently: but I will give you no more trouble of this kind, whilſt you ſtay; which I hope will be a good while longer.

Viat. That will not be above a day longer; but if I live till *May* come twelve month, you are ſure of me again, either with my maſter *Walton*, or without him, and in the mean time ſhall acquaint him how much you have made of me for his ſake, and I hope he loves me well enough, to thank you for it.

Piſc. I ſhall be glad, Sir, of your good company at the time you ſpeak of, and ſhall be loath to part with you now; but when you tell me you muſt go, I will then wait upon you more miles on your way, than I have tempted you out of it, and heartily wiſh you a good journey.

The END.

A SHORT DISCOURSE BY WAY OF *POSTSCRIPT*, TOUCHING THE LAWS of ANGLING*.

My good FRIEND,

I Cannot but tender my particular thanks to you, for that you have been pleased by three Editions of your Complete Angler, freely to dispence your dear-bought Experiences to all the lovers of that Art, and have thereby so excellently vindicated the Legality thereof, as to divine approbation, that if I should go about to say more in that behalf, it indeed were to light a Candle to the Sun: But since all pleasures (though never so innocent in themselves) lose that stamp, when they are either pursued with inordinate affections, or to the prejudice of another; therefore as

* This Discourse was first published with, and was printed at the end of the Third Editon of *Walton*'s book; but, as the subject matter of it does as well relate to *Cotton*'s second part as to the other, it was thought proper to transpose it.

to the former, every man ought to endeavour, through a serious consideration of the vanity of worldly contentments, to moderate his affections thereunto, whereby they may be made of excellent use, as some poisons allayed are in Physick: And as to the latter; we are to have recourse to the known Laws, ignorance whereof excuseth no man, and therefore by their directions so to square our actions, that we hurt no man, but keep close to that golden Rule, To do to all men, as we would ourselves be done unto.

Now concerning the Art of Angling, we may conclude, Sir, that as you have proved it to be of great Antiquity, so I find it favoured by the Laws of this Kingdom; for where provision is made by our Statute primo Elizab. cap. 17. against taking fish by Nets that be not of such and such a size there set down, yet, those Lawmakers had so much respect to Anglers, as to except them; and leave them at liberty to catch as big as they could, and as little as they would catch. And yet though this Apostolical Recreation be simply in it self lawful, yet no man can go upon another man's ground to fish, without his licence, but that he is a Trespasser; but if a man have licence to enter into a Close or Ground for such a space of time, there though he practice Angling all that time, he is not a Trespasser, because his fishing is no abuse of his licence: But this is to be understood of running streams, and not of Ponds or standing Pools; for in case of a Pond or standing Pool, the Owner thereof hath a property in the fish, and they are so far said to be his, that he may have Trepas for the fish against any one that shall take them without his licence, though it be upon a

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Common, or adjoining to the King's High-way, or adjoining to another man's ground, who gives licence: But in case of a River, where one or more have libera Piscaria only, it is otherwise, for there the fishes are said to be feræ natura, and the taking of them with an Angle is not Trespass for that no man is said to have a property in them till he have caught them: And then it is a Trespass for any to take them from him: But this is not to be understood of fishes confined to a man's own ground by gates or otherwise, so that they cannot pass away, but may be taken out or put in at pleasure, for in that case the party hath a property in them, as in the case of a standing Pool.

But where any one hath separalis piscaria, as in Child and Greenhill's Case in Trin. 15 Car. 1. in the King's Bench, there it seemeth that the fish may be said to be his, because no man else may take them whilst they are within his several fishing: Therefore what is meant by a several fishing is necessary to be considered: And though the difference between a Free-fishing, and a Several-fishing be often treated of in the antient books of the Law, and some Opinions will have the difference to be great, and others small or nothing at all; yet the certainest definition of a several fishing is, where one hath the Royalty, and owneth the ground on each side of the water which agreeth with Sir William Calthrop's Case, where an Action was brought by him against another for fishing in his several fishing, &c. to which the Defendant pleaded, That the

3d Cro. 553.

Mich. 17. E. 4, 6. and Pasch. 18. E. 4, 4.

place wherein the Trespass was supposed to be done, contained ten perches of Land in length, and twenty perches in breadth, which was his own Freehold at the time when the Trespass was supposed to be done, and that he used there as was lawful for him to do, and this was adjudged a good plea by the whole Court, and upon argument in that very Case it was agreed, that no man could have a several fishing but in his own soil, and that free fishing may be in the soil of another man. Which was all agreed unto by Littleton our famous English Lawyer. So that from all this may be drawn this short conclusion, That if the Angler take care that he offend not with his feet, there is no great danger of his hands.

But there are some covetous rigid persons, whose souls hold no sympathy with those of the innocent Anglers, having either got to be Lords of Royalties, or owners of Lands adjoining to Rivers, and these do, by some apted disposition of nature and education for the purpose, insult and domineer over the innocent Angler, beating him, breaking his Rod or at least taking it from him *, and sometimes imprisoning his person as if he were a Felon. Whereas a true-bred Gentleman scorns these spider-like attempts, and will rather refresh a civil Stranger at his Table, than warm

* There is no reading this passage without figuring to one's imagination the poor, humble, patient Angler, standing still and defenceless, while the merciless Lord of the manor is laying him on with a flail, perhaps the but of his own rod, or a worse weapon. I will not dispute with the author but that the meekness and submission of the poor Angler upon this occasion are very becoming: but this sort of passive valour is rather to be admired than imitated.

him

him from coming on his ground upon so innocent an occasion. It would therefore be considered how far such furious drivers are warranted by the Law, and what the Angler may (in case of such violence) do in defence of himself: If I come upon another man's ground without his licence, or the licence of the Law, I am a Trespasser, for which the owner may have an Action of Trespass against me, and if I continue there after warning, to depart by the owner, or his servant thereunto authorised, the owner, or his servant by his command, may put me off by force, but not beat me, but in case of resistance by me, for then I (by resisting) make the assault; but if he beat me, I not resisting, in that case, he makes the assault, and I may beat him in defence of myself, and to free myself from his violence: And in case I shall leave my Dog behind in his ground, he may take it damage feasant, but he can neither take it from my person by force, nor break it, but he is a Trespasser to me: Which seems clear by the case of Reynell and Champernoon, where Reynell brought an Action of Trespass against Champernoon for taking and cutting his Nets, the Defendant justified for that he was seised in fee of a several fishing, and that the Plaintiff with others endeavoured to row upon his water, and with the Nets to catch his fish, and that for the safe-guard of his fishing he took and cut the Nets and Oars; to which plea the Plaintiff demurred; and there it was adjudged by the whole Court, that he could not by such colour cut the Nets and Oars; and judgment was thereupon given for the Plaintiff.

Mich. 7. Car. 1. Cro. Car. 228.

Doubtleſs our Fore-fathers well conſidered, that man to man was a wolf, and therefore made good Laws to keep us from devouring one another, and amongſt the reſt a very good Statute was made in the three and fortieth Year of Queen Elizabeth, whereby it is provided, that in perſonal Actions in the Courts at Weſtminſter, (being not for Land or Battery) when it ſhall appear to the Judges, (and be ſo by them ſignified) that the debt or damages to be recovered amount not to the ſum of forty ſhillings or above, the ſaid Judges ſhall award to the Plaintiff no more coſts than damages, but leſs at their diſcretion.

And now with my acknowledgment of the advantage I have had both by your friendſhip and your book; I wiſh nothing may ever be that looks like an alteration in the firſt; nor any thing in the laſt, unleſs, by reaſon of the uſeful pleaſure of it, you had called it The Arcadia of Angling; for it deſerves that Title, and I would deſerve the continuance of your Friendſhip.

Since the writing the foregoing diſcourſe, the Laws of this country, relative to Fiſh and Fiſhing, have undergone ſuch conſiderable alterations as would alone juſtify an addition to it; but as it has, of late, been objected to all Laws that aſſign an excluſive right in any of the creatures of God to particular ranks or orders of men, that they ſavour of barbariſm, and are calculated to ſerve the purpoſes of tyranny and ambition; it was thought neceſſary to trace the matter farther back, and ſhew from whence Laws of this kind derive their force: And tho' it is not imagined that ſpeculative arguments

ments will operate upon men of licentious principles, yet as the general tenor of this work ſuppoſes the Angler to be endued with reaſon, and under the dominion of conſcience, it may not be amiſs to ſtate the obligation he is under to an obſervance of ſuch Laws, and to point out to him the ſeveral inſtances where he cannot purſue his recreation without the riſque of his quiet.

Property is univerſally allowed to be founded on occupancy, the very notion of which implies induſtry, or ſome act in the occupant of which no ſtranger has a right to avail himſelf; he that firſt took poſſeſſion of an uncultivated tract of land, provided it was no more than neceſſary for the ſubſiſtence of himſelf and his Family, became thereby the proprietor of ſuch land.

Mr. *Locke* illuſtrates this doctrine by an elegant inſtance, "the water running in the foun-"tain, ſays he, is every ones; but that in the "Pitcher is his who draws it" *On Government*, 187.

And if this reaſoning be admitted in the caſe of land, which is ranked among the immoveable objects of property, it is much ſtronger in favour of things moveable, the right of which is at once claimed, and fortified by an actual poſſeſſion and ſeparation from that common maſs in which they were originally ſuppoſed to exiſt.

But notwithſtanding the innumerable appropriations which in the preſent civilized ſtate of the world, appear to have been made, there are many things which may yet be ſaid to be in common and in a ſtate of natural liberty; in this claſs we may rank creatures *feræ natura*, beaſts of chace, many kinds of fowl, and all Fiſh.

The Fisherman in *Plautus* admits, that none of the Fish were his, while they remained in their proper element, and insists only on his right to those which he had caught. *Rudens*, Act 4, Scene 3. And both the *Jewish* and *Roman* lawyers assert, that wild beasts and Fish belong only to those who take them *.

This notion has led many persons to imagine, that, even now, there subsists a general community of these creatures; and that, at this day, every one has a right to take them to his own use wherever he finds them. Not to insist, that if all men promiscuously were permitted the exercise of this right, it would be of very little benefit to any, it may suffice to say, that there are few civilized countries that have not found it necessary either for promoting some public good, or averting some public mischief, to controul it by express prohibitions; and how far such prohibitions are deemed lawful and binding on the consciences of those on whom they are imposed, will appear by consulting the authorities in the margin †; and it is worth noting, that Laws

* Seld. *De Jure Nat. et Gent. juxta Disc. Ebraeor.* Lib. IV. Cap. 4. Instit. Lib. II. Tit. 1. *De rerum divisione et acquirendo earum Dominio.* However, this is to be understood only in cases where there is no law to forbid it. Grot. *De Jure Belli ac Pacis*, Lib. II. Cap. 2. § 5.

† Puffendorf *De Jure Nat. et Gent.* Lib. IV. Cap. 6. § 6. Gudelin *De Jure Novissimo*, Lib. II. Cap. 2. D. Lib. XLI. Tit. 2. *De acquirend. vel amittend. Possess.* See also *Garcilasso de la Vega* Comm. Reg. Lib. VI. Cap. 6. Where Hunting, by the inferior sort, is prohibited, lest, says the law, "men betaking themselves to the pleasure of the field, "should delight in a continued course of sports, and to neg-"lect the necessary provision and maintenance of their fa-"milies."

made

made to prohibit the taking of creatures *feræ natura*, by perſons unqualified, do not take from a man any thing which is his own; but they barely forbid the uſe of certain methods of acquiſition, which the Law of nature might, perhaps, allow of. *Puffendorf de Jure Nat. et Gent. Lib.* IV. *Cap.* 6, § 6. *

Agreeable to the principles here laid down we find, that the Laws of moſt countries, at leaſt of this, have aſſigned the property in the creatures in queſtion to particular perſons: thus to Royal Fiſh, which are Whales, and Sturgeons, the King is intitled by his prerogative, and the property of fiſh in rivers, or at leaſt, a right to take them, is, in many places, given to Corporations; as with us, the Fiſhery of the river *Thames* is granted to the city of *London*; and the townſmen of *Hungerford*, in *Berkſhire*, claim a right of Fiſhing in that part of the river *Kennet*, called their common water, under a grant from *John* of *Gaunt*, who, we may ſuppoſe, derived it from the crown †: but in moſt inſtances Fiſh belong to the owner of the ſoil.

Theſe principles being recognized, and property once ſettled, it is eaſy to ſee the neceſſity and the juſtice of fencing it with poſitive Laws; accordingly, in this country, judicial determinations have, from time to time, been made, aſ-

* See alſo *Arnold. Vinn.* ad Sect. 13. *De Rer. divis.* And *Ziegler* on *Grotius*, Lib. II. Cap. 2. § 5.

† The townſmen of *Hungerford* have a horn, holding about a quart, the inſcription whereof affirms it to have been given by *John* of *Gaunt*, along with the *Rud-ſtring* (ſo it is therein expreſſed, in a certain part of the river *Gibs. Camden*, 166.

certaining the rights of perſons to Fiſheries and theſe, together with the ſeveral ſtatutes enacted to prevent the deſtruction of Fiſh, compoſe the Laws relating to Fiſh and Fiſhing; the former by way of ſupplement to the foregoing diſcourſe, are here laid down; and the latter will be referred to.

The property which the common Law gives in River-Fiſh uncaught, is of that kind which is called *ſpecial*, or qualified property; which ſee defined by Lord *Coke*, in his reports, *Part.* 7. *Fo.* 17. b. and is derived out of the right to the place or ſoil were ſuch Fiſh live: ſo that, ſuppoſing them, at any given inſtant, to belong to one perſon, whenever they reſort to the ſoil or water of another, they become his property, and ſo *in infinitum*.

And to prove that this notion of a fluctuating or tranſitory property is what the Law allows, we need only apply it to the caſe of the water in a river; which is ſo conſtantly paſſing from the ſoil of one to another, that no man can, in ſtrictneſs be ſaid to go twice to the ſame river; and yet, by a grant of any given quantity of land covered with water, which is the only legal deſignation of a river, not only a certain tract of the river, but the Fiſh contained in it, ſhall paſs, ſee *Coke* on *Littleton* 4. a.

In the *Regiſter*, a very ancient Law-book, we find two writs relating to Fiſh; the one, for the unlawful taking of Fiſh in a ſeveral Fiſhery; and the other, in a free Fiſhery; and of theſe in their order.

A ſeveral Fiſhery, is that which a man is intitled to in reſpect of his being the owner of the ſoil,

ſoil, and is what no one can have in the land of another, unleſs by ſpecial grant or preſcription; and whoever ſhall fiſh in ſuch a ſeveral Fiſhery, without a licence, is liable to an action of treſpaſs, in which the plaintiff may well demand, *wherefore, in the plaintiff's ſeveral Fiſhery, the defendant was fiſhing, and his Fiſhes took*, &c. for though the Fiſh be *feræ Natura*, yet being taken in the water of the owner of the river, they are ſaid to be *his* Fiſh, without ſaying in his ſoil or water, 3d *Croke*'s Reports 553. *Child* and *Greenhill*'s caſe; but he muſt ſet forth the nature and number of the Fiſh taken, 5. *Coke*'s Reports 35. *Playter*'s caſe, and 3d *Croke* 18.

A free Fiſhery is a right to take Fiſh in the water and ſoil of another, and is derived out of a ſeveral Fiſhery. If one ſeized of a river, without including the ſoil, grants a ſeveral Fiſhery, or, which amounts to no more than that, his water, a right of Fiſhing paſſes, and nothing elſe. *Plowden*'s *Commentary* 154. b. *Coke* on *Littleton* 4. b. and the word *ſeveral*, in ſuch caſe, is ſynonimous with *ſole*, and that in ſo ſtrict a ſenſe, that by ſuch a grant not only ſtrangers, but even the owner of the ſoil, is excluded from Fiſhing there. *Co. Litt.* 122. a. And further, where one preſcribes to have a ſeveral Fiſhery in a water, which preſcription always ſuppoſes a grant precedent, the owner of the ſoil, as much as a ſtranger, is liable to an action if he Fiſhes there. 2 *Roll.* 258 the caſe of *Foriſton* and *Cratchrode* in the common pleas. *Mich.* 29. and 30. *Eliz.* But here the writ ſhall vary from that in the caſe of a ſeveral Fiſhery, and demand,

where

wherefore the defendant, in the free Fiſhery of the plaintiff, at N. *without the licence and conſent of the plaintiff, was fiſhing*, &c. expreſſing the nature and number of the Fiſh taken; but becauſe the ſoil does not paſs by ſuch a grant, and the Fiſh are *feræ naturæ*, he ſhall not call them *his* Fiſh, as in the former inſtance. See the caſe of *Child* and *Greenhill*, above cited.

The doctrine deducible from theſe principles is, that that which united with the ſoil, would be a ſeveral Fiſhery, when ſevered by grant, tho' the grant be of a ſeveral, or ſole, and not of a free Fiſhery, *in terminis*, becomes a free Fiſhery.

There is yet another caſe that I ſhall mention, which will give the intelligent reader a clear notion of this matter. A man grants to one, or more, a *liberty* of *fiſhing* *: here nothing but a naked right to fiſh paſſes, and the remedy againſt a treſpaſſer is not ſevered from the ſoil; the owner whereof, and not the grantee, may maintain an action, and may alſo fiſh himſelf. *Co. Litt.* 122. a.

As common of Fiſhing may be appendant to land, ſo alſo there may be a jointenancy, or a tenancy in common of a Fiſhery. 1. *Inſt.* 186. b.

* I find in *Dugd. Warw.* 1142. *in margine*, an account of the following grant, which for its ſingularity deſerves notice.

31 *Hen.* III. "*Thomas de Clinton*, of *Aminton*, levied a "fine to *Phil. Marmion*, that he and his heirs, his wife, and "their heirs, might, when they came to *Tamworth*, or to "their cattle at *Middleton*, fiſh with a boat any where in his "water at *Aminton*, with one net, called a *Wa*-net, and a "*Tramil* and *Sayne*; for which liberty he gave him ſix "mark of ſilver."

Having

Having thus ſhewn in what caſes the Angler, in the purſuit of his recreation, may become a *treſpaſſer*, let us next conſider how far he is, by taking Fiſh, in danger of committing *Larceny*; for that the taking Fiſh out of a pond, without the conſent of the owner, falls within my Lord *Coke*'s definition of that crime, no one can doubt that reads it. His words are, "Larceny is the "felonious, and fraudulent taking and carry-"ing away, by any man or woman, of the "meer perſonal goods of another; neither from "the perſon nor by night, in the houſe of the "owner" *3d Inſt.* 107. and a little after, 109, he expreſsly ſays "Larceny may be committed "of Fiſhes in a *pond*."

Now, tho' to make the taking any perſonal thing felonious, reaſon and the law require, that the party ſhould do it *animo furandi*, ſee *Bracton Lib.* 3. *Fo.* 150, *Fleta Lib.* 1. *Cap.* 36. which we will ſuppoſe no Angler to be poſſeſſed with; yet whether by the word *pond*, we are to underſtand ponds at large, is perhaps of ſome conſequence for him to know.

It is a rule in law that perſonal goods, and things ſevered from the freehold, ſhall go to the executors, and not to the heir. *Wentworth's office of an executor*, Chap. 5. and ſo ſhall Fiſh in a trunk, or the like, *ibid.* but Lord *Coke* in his *Commentary on Littleton*, Fo. 8. tells us, that Fiſh in a pond ſhall go with the inheritance, becauſe, ſays he, "they were at their liberty, "and could not be gotten without induſtry, as "by nets or engines."

From hence we may conclude, that Fiſh in ponds cannot be ſaid to be *meer perſonal* goods, and

and then it follows as a conſequence, that of ſuch fiſh larceny cannot be commited ; and we may further conclude, that the word *ponds*, in the above paſſage, muſt mean only ſtew-ponds, ciſterns, or other ſuch ſmall receptacles of Fiſh.

Many wholeſome laws have, from time to time, been enacted, to prevent the deſtruction of Fiſh; but they are ſo numerous, that I muſt refer the reader to the Statutes at large, or to the Abridgment, publiſhed by a late worthy and learned friend of mine, *John Cay*, Eſq; deceaſed.

APPENDIX.

APPENDIX.

NUMB. I.

FEBRUARY.

PEACOCK-HACKLE. Peacock's Herl alone, or interchanged with Oſtrich Herl, warping red ſilk, red Cock's Hackle over all; it may be varied by a black Cock's Hackle and ſilver twiſt.

Taken chiefly from nine to eleven in the morning, and from one to three in the afternoon.

This and the ſeveral other Hackles, which we have here and hereafter deſcribed, being moſt tempting baits, ſhould always be firſt tried when the Angler comes to a ſtrange river; and not changed till he has found out, and is certain what particular flie is upon the water.

MARCH.

GREEN PEACOCK HACKLE. Greeniſh herl of a Peacock; warping, green Silk, a black Hackle over all.

Taken from eight to eleven in the morning

DARK BROWN. Dub with the hair of a dark brown Spaniel or Calf, that looks ruddy by being expoſed to wind, and weather; warp with ruddy or chocolate co-

loured

loured filk. The wing of the darkish part of a Starling's quill feather.

Taken chiefly from nine to eleven in the morning; the same flie takes in September.

Ash coloured Dun. Dub with the roots of a Fox-cub's tail; warp with pale yellow filk: wing of the pale part of a Starling's feather.

Taken from eight to eleven, and from one to three.

This flie which is also called the *Violet Dun* and *Blue Dun*, is to be found on almost every river; some particulars of it have been mentioned in the late Part II. P. 57; but here follow some observations on it, which deserve to be attended to: it varies much in its colour, according to the season of the year. In *March* and *September* it is called, and that very properly, the *Violet Dun*: for it has often that hue; and therefore, in the passage above referred to, we have directed the mixing blue-violet crewel with the Fox cub Down. In *April* it assumes a pale ash-colour, and in *May* is of a beautiful lemon-colour, both body and wings. In *June* and *July* it is blue-black, and from *July* it insensibly varies 'till it becomes of its primitive colour, Violet Dun, which it never fails to do by *September*.

APRIL.

Pearl-Colour or Heron Dun. Dub with the yellowish or ash-coloured herl of a Heron, warp with ash-coloured silk: wing from the short feather of a Heron or from a Coot's wing, of an ash colour.

Morning and afternoon.

Blue Dun. Dub with the fur of a Water-Rat; warp with ash-colour: wing of a Coot's feather.

Morning and Afternoon.

MAY.

MAY.

SILVER-TWIST HACKLE. Dub with the herl of an Oſtrich-feather; warp with dark green, ſilver twiſt, and black Cock's Hackle, over all.

Taken from nine to eleven eſpecially in a ſhowery day.

SOOTY DUN. Dub with black Spaniel's fur, or the herl of an Oſtrich, warp with green; wing, the dark part of a Land Rail or Coot.

Taken beſt in a ſhowery day, as alſo in April *or* June.

LIGHT FLAMING or SPIRING BROWN. Dub with light brown of a Calf; warp with orange-colour; wing of a pale grey Mallard's feather.

Taken chiefly before ſun-ſet in a warm evening—a good flie.

Although much has been ſaid, in the firſt part of the foregoing dialogues, of the Oak-flie, *the author has given but a very ſuperficial deſcription of it; and his directions for making it are extremely imperfect; we would therefore recommend the making it after the natural flie, and that according to the following directions.*

OAK FLIE. By ſome called the *Aſh*-flie, (by others, erroneouſly, the *Hawthorn* flie.) The head, which is large, of an aſh-colour; the upper part of the body greyiſh, with two or three hairs of bright brown mixt, and a very little light blue, and ſometimes a hair or two of light green; the tail part is greyiſh mixt with orange: wing of a mottled brown feather of a Woodcock, Partridge, or brown Hen; hook No. 8. or 9. This is the flie which is ſeen much in *March*, *April*, *May*, and *June*, on the body of Aſhes, Oaks, Willows, or Thorns, growing near the water, ſtanding with its head downwards; it is an excellent flie, but difficult to imitate, being of many colours, unequally mixt. It takes chiefly in the morning; it does not ſeem to come from any Cadis; for it never drops in great numbers on the

the water; and the wings are ſhort, and lie flat on the back, like the Bluebottle, or large Fleſh-flie.

ORANGE TAWNEY, ORANGE-BROWN, CAMLET-FLIE, ALDER-FLIE, WITHY-FLIE, or BASTARD CADIS. Dub with dark brown Spaniel's hair, or Calf's hair, that ſhines, or Barge-ſail; warp with deep orange, black Hackle under the wing: wing of a darkiſh feather of a Mallard or Starling

Taken chiefly in a morning before the Green-Drake *comes upon the water.*

HUZZARD. Dub with pale lemon-coloured mohair, or Oſtrich feather dyed yellow; warp with yellow, gold twiſt and yellow Hackle over all. Wing of a very pale Mallard's feather dyed of a lemon-colour, the wings large, and longer than the body, lying flat on the back.

Taken in a bluſtering day, before the May-*flie comes in.*

A flie little known, but the moſt beautiful of the inſect ſpecies that frequent the water. It is larger than the *Green-Drake* of a beautiful lemon-colour both body and wings, which are four in number, and lie cloſe to its back. It is to be met with in but few rivers and is eſteemed a great curioſity; in thoſe rivers that produce them they appear in great numbers about the latter end of *April*; at which time, and afterwards, the Trouts riſe at them very eagerly: doubtleſs this is a true water-flie: it is ſuppoſed to be produced from a very large Cadis.

DEATH DRAKE. The body, one herl of black Oſtrich and two of Peacock; ſilver-twiſt, black Hackle: wing of the dark feather of a Mallard of a copper-colour.

Taken chiefly in an evening when the May-*flie is almoſt gone.*

YELLOW MILLER or OWL FLIE. The body of a yellow Martern's fur, or Oſtrich Herl dyed buff colour: wing of the ruddy feather of a young Peacock's wing or pale brown Chicken.

Taken

Taken from ſun-ſet till ten at night, and from two till four in the morning.

JULY.

MIDDLING BROWN. Made of Calf's hair twiſted upon pale yellow ſilk, for the ſilk to appear: wing of a Mallard's feather.

DARK BROWN. Warp with red ſilk, with a deep orange tag at the tail: wing of a Mallard's feather.

WILLOW CRICKET, or SMALL PEACOCK FLY. A Herl of a green Peacock's feather; warp with green ſilk: wing of a Starling's feather longer than the body.

A morning fly eſpecially for Grayling in rapid rivers.

PISMIRE. The body, ſome few reeves of a Cock Pheaſant's tail-feather, or ruddy Barge-ſail or brown Carpet or old Bear's hair, towards the roots, tanned with the weather: one Peacock's herl may be twiſted with it: warp with ruddy ſilk: wing, the light part of a Starling's feather left longer than the body.

A killing fly after an Emmet-*flight, but not before.*

AUGUST.

The Piſmire thro' this Month; as alſo the other Flies of the laſt Month.

SEPTEMBER.

LARGE FOETID LIGHT BROWN. The body of light Calf or Cow's hair, or Seal's fur dyed of the colour; warp with ruddy or orange-coloured ſilk: wing, of a ruddy brown Chicken large and long.

A killing fly in a morning. This fly is much upon Hackney *River, and is much ruddier there than elſewhere. Somewhat of its hiſtory is given in the Notes, Page* 261.

NUMBER II.

JANUARY.

SPRING BLACK. Body, black wool of a Sheep's face, with or without a greeniſh Peacock's herl; warp with brown ſilk: wing, the grey feather of a Mallard.

SECOND SPRING BLACK. Body, the very blackeſt part of the darkeſt Hare's ſcut you can procure, with or without a greeniſh Peacock's herl: warp with aſh-coloured ſilk: wing, of a Fieldfare's feather.

This and the other Spring Black are beſt taken in bright Weather.

BLOA* HERL. Body, black Rabbet's ſcut; black of a Hare's ſcut; greeniſh Peacock herl; warp with brown ſilk: wing, the light part of a Fieldfare's feather.

BLACK HACKLE. Body, pale yellow ſilk, with a black Cock's hackle turned about it.

DUN HACKLE. Body, dun-coloured ſilk, with a dun Cock's hackle.

FEBRUARY.

The ſame flies as are directed for the preceding Month.

* This is a North-country word, and as I am told, ſignifies a colour reſembling that of a Mole's back, which has a bluiſh gloſs. I find it thus explained in a catalogue of local words, communicated in a letter from Mr. *Thoreſby*, of *Leeds*, to Mr. *Ray*, Bloa, *black* and *blue*. Philoſophical letters between the learned Mr. *Ray* and ſeveral of his ingenious correſpondents, *Octavo*, 1718. Page 321.

MARCH.

MARCH.

The ſame flies as are directed for the preceding months; and alſo the

TURKEY FLY, or MARCH FLY. Body, brown Foal's hair, tops of the wings of a Woodcock, ſome ruddy, others grey, well mixed together; warp with pink and yellow, or pink and light-coloured brown ſilk, twiſted together: wing, of a Pheaſant-Cock's feather.

N. B. *This, it is ſuppoſed, is the* Cob-*fly, ſo much cried up in* Wales.

APRIL.

LIGHT BLOA. Body, light Fox-Cub fur, a little light Foal's hair; a little Squirrel's bloa and the whitiſh yellow of the ſame, all theſe well mixed together; warp with yellow ſilk: wing, of a light Fieldfare's feather.

DUN. Body, dunneſt Filmert * or Martern's fur; Indian Fox-dun; light dun Fox-cub; coarſe hair of the ſtump of a Squirrel's tail of a brightiſh brown, or a yellowiſh caſt; warp with yellow ſilk: wing, the light feather of a Fieldfare.

PLAIN HACKLE. Body, black Oſtrich herl, with red or black Cock's hackle over it; and in hot weather add gold-twiſt.

RED HACKLE. Body, red ſilk and gold-twiſt, and a red Cock's hackle, 'till *June*. Afterwards uſe orange ſilk for the body. *An excellent fly.*

N. B. *This is more properly the* Orange-*fly. It reſembles in colour a* Sevil-*Orange. Wings may be added, either of a Hen or Chicken, of an orange or*

* *Filmert.* This is the animal which *Walton*, p. 13. calls the *Fulimart*: But the former is a name by which it is very well known at the Furrier's.

ruddy caſt; or a dull dark wing of the ſofteſt feather of a Rook's wing. It has four wings, two next the body of a very dark grey colour, and two ſerving as a caſe over them, ſometimes of a dirty blackiſh colour, and ſometimes of an orange-colour.

BLOA WATCHET *. Is a ſmall flie, and appears onthe water in a cold day, (hook No. 9, or 10) the body, fur of a Water Rat, black part of a Hare's ſcut the pale roots cut off, a very little brown Bear's hair: warp with the pale brown, or olive coloured ſilk: wing of a hen Blackbird.

YELLOW WATCHET. Body, Water-Rat's fur, the blackeſt part of a Hare's ſcut, greeniſh yellow crewel for feet; warp with green ſilk: wing, the lighteſt part of a Blackbird's feather. Hook, No. 9 or 10.

KNOTTED GREY GNAT. Body, darkeſt part of a Hare's ſcut, dark brown Foal's hair, dark fur of the black of an old Fox; warp with grey ſilk: wing, the bloa feather of a Fieldfare.

GREEN-TAIL. Body, dark part of a Hare's ſcut and darkeſt bloa fur of an old Fox; light part of a Squirrel's tail, and a hair or two of the coarſe browniſh part of it for feet; warp with aſh-coloured ſilk: wing, of a Hen Pheaſant.

SAND FLY. Body, dark brown Foal's hair, a little bloa Squirrel's fur, and the whitiſh yellow of the ſame; warp with yellow ſilk: wing, the light part of a Fieldfare's feather.

MAY.

The nine foregoing flies directed for *April*, and alſo the

* *Watchet.* Color caeruleus albicans *Skinner.* Pale or ſky-blue.

BLOA

BLOA HERL. Body: Fox's fur, dark part of a Hare's ſcut, greeniſh herl of a Peacock (if the weather is warm for the ſeaſon, otherwiſe little or none of the greeniſh herl;) warp with brown ſilk: wing, of a Starling's feather.

DUN. Body, Dunniſh bloa fur of an old Fox, mixed with pale yellow, the ends of the hairs of an old Fox almoſt red; ſome coarſe hairs taken out of the tail or bruſh; warp with yellow: wing, Starling's feather.

STONE-GNAT. Body, the roots of the darkeſt part of a Hare's ſcut, the top or ends being cut off; warp with aſh-coloured ſilk: wing, a Blackbird's feather.

LIGHT BLOA. Body, light fur of an old Fox, mixed with pale yellow crewel; warp with pale yellow ſilk: wing, light feather of a Jay.

ORANGE BROWN. Body, Orange-coloured wool, with bright brown Bear's hair mixed; warp with orange ſilk: wing, of a Starling's feather.

PEACOCK HACKLE. Body: Peacock's ruddy herl; red Cock's Hackle; warp with red ſilk.

BLACK HREL. Body: Black herl of an Oſtrich, and ruddy herl of a Peacock, twiſted together; warp with brown ſilk: wing, the light feather of a Fieldfare.

PEWET, or LAPWING'S TOPPING. Body, Peacock's herl, and that of a Lapwing's crown feather, twiſted together; warp with red ſilk: wing, the red feather of a Partridge tail.

RED HERL. Body, two herls of a Peacock, twiſted together; warp with ruddy ſilk: wing, the red feather of a Partridge tail.

JUNE.

The *Dun*, *Stone-Gnat*, *Light Bloa*, *Orange-Brown*, *Peacock Hackle*, *Black Herl*, *Pewet's Topping*, and *Red Herl*, of the laſt month, go alſo thro' this; there are likewiſe taken the

WHITTERISH. Body, the root-end of the white part of a Hare's ſcut; light grey Foal's hair, or Camel's hair, towards the tail, the dark part of a Hare's ſcut with ſome brown hairs mixed: Peacock's herl for the head; warp with white ſilk: wing, the feather of a Sea-Mew.

LIGHT GREY. Body: Fur of the inner part of a Rabbit's leg, the lighteſt of the dark part of a Hare's ſcut; warp with aſh-coloured ſilk: wings, light grey Mallard's feather.

JULY.

The *Peacock Hackle*, *Black Herl*, *Pewet's Topping*, and *Red Herl* of *May*, and *June*, and the *Whitteriſh* and *Light-grey* of the laſt month ſerve alſo for this, and to thoſe add the

BROWN. Body, Hair of a very light brown or reddiſh Calf or Spaniel, and light Bear's hair mixed; warp with pale orange: wing, the feather of a Land-Rail.

AUGUST.

The *Peacock Hackle*, and the three following flies of *May*, and the two ſubſequent months, and the *Brown* of the laſt month, ſerve alſo for this; in which alſo are taken the

GREY

GREY FLY. Body, light grey Foal's hair mixed with the dark part of a Hare's ſcut; warp with grey ſilk: wing, a Hen-Pheaſant's feather.

BLACK ANT FLY. Body, darkeſt part of a Hare's ſcut, and dark brown wool or Sheep's ruſſet, equally mixed, and one ſingle ruddy herl of a Peacock, all twiſted together; warp with copper-coloured ſilk: wing, a Fieldfare's feather.

BROWN ANT FLY. Body, bright brown Bear's hair, much weather beaten, almoſt of an orange-colour towards the tail, and therefore a few hairs of a light brown, or flame-coloured Calf, or Spaniel's hair to be added in the tail-part; warp with orange-coloured ſilk: wing, the light feather of a Fieldfare or Starling.

NUMBER III.

FEBRUARY.

PRIME DUN. Dubbing, of the down of a Fox-cub, warped with ſad aſh-coloured ſilk; wings, of the feather got from the quill of a * *Shepſtare*'s wing. This fly is made little; but there is another made of the ſame Dubbing larger by far.

MARCH.

The ſame flies as are taken in *February*, will be taken in *March*, and alſo thoſe hereafter mentioned.

* The reader is to note, that *Shepſtare*, *Stare*, and *Starling*, are words ſynonimous. Vid. *Minſh.* Dict. *Voce* STARE.

MOORISH BROWN. Dubbing, of the wool of a black Sheep; warped with red ſilk: wings, of the feather got from a Partridge wing.

PALM FLY. Dubbing, of the hair of a brown Spaniel, got on the outſide of the ear; and a little ſea-green wool mixed; warped with brown cloth-coloured ſilk: wings, of a Shepſtare's quill-feather.

GREEN-TAIL. Dubbing of the brown hair of a Spaniel, got on the outſide of the ear, but a little in the end of the tail; muſt be all of ſea-green wool, without mixture: wings as the laſt.

APRIL.

BRIGHT BEAR. Dubbing, of bright Bear's hair; warped with ſad cloth-coloured ſilk: wings, of a Shepſtare's quill feather; others dub the body with yellow ſilk, which is better.

YELLOW DUN. Dubbing, of yellow wool, and aſh-coloured Fox cub down mixed together, dubbed with yellow ſilk: wings, of the feather of a Shepſtare's quill: others dub it with dun Bear's hair, and the yellow fur got from a Martern's ſkin, mixed together, and with yellow ſilk: wings, of a Shepſtare's quill feather. Make two other flies, their bodies dubbed as the laſt; but in the one mingle ſanded Hog's down; and in the other black Hog's down: wings, of a Shepſtare's quill-feather: and there is alſo taken an excellent fly, made of dun Bear's hair, yellow Martern's fur, ſanded Hog's down, and black Hog's down, all mixed in an equal proportion together; warped with yellow ſilk: wings of the feather of a Shepſtare's quill. Theſe ſeveral flies mentioned for *April*, are very good, and will be taken all the ſpring and ſummer.

MAY.

MAY.

THORN FLY. Dubbing, of black Lamb's wool, warped with black ſilk; wings of a Mallard's light grey feather.—Note, *That in all the inſtances where Mallards feathers are directed to be uſed for wings, they muſt be thoſe of the wild, and not the tame Mallard.*

KNOP FLY. Dubbing, of the down of an Otter-cub, and the herl of a Peacock; warped with black ſilk: wings of the light grey feather of a Mallard.

FERN-BUD. This fly is got on Fern; and the natural one is very good to dib with; it has a ſhort thick body, of a very ſad greeniſh colour, and two pair of wings; the uppermoſt are hard, and ſometimes taken off; but the undermoſt diſaphanous and it is dubbed with the herl of a Peacock, and very ſad green ſilk: wings, of the feather of a Fieldfare's quill got out of the wing.

LITTLE DUN. Dubbing, of an Otter's fur; warped with aſh-coloured ſilk: wings, of a Shepſtare's quill feather.

YELLOW MAY-FLY. Dubbing, of yellow wool mixed with yellow fur of a Martern; warped with yellow ſilk: wings of the lighteſt-coloured feather of a Throſtle.

JUNE.

BLACK MIDGE, or GNAT. Dubbing, of the down of a Mole; warped with black ſilk: wings, of a light grey Shepſtare's quill-feather.

GREY MIDGE, or GNAT. Dubbing, of the down of a ſad grey Cat, or ſad grey Camel's hair; warped with grey ſilk: wings of the grey feather of a Mallard.

PURPLE

PURPLE FLY. Dubbing, of purple wool, and a little Bear's hair mixed; ſometimes no Bear's hair at all: wings, of a Shepſtare's quill-feather; warped with purple ſilk.

SAND FLY. Dubbing, of the wool gotten off the flank of a black Sheep, warped with black ſilk: wings, of the ſad coloured feather of a Throſtle quill; others make the body of the feather of a Heron's neck.

MACKERIL. Dubbing, of light brown Camel's hair; warped with black ſilk; wings, of a red Cock's feather.

JULY.

BLUE DUN. Dubbing, of the down of a water-Mouſe, and the blewiſh dun of an old Fox mixed together; warped with ſad aſh-coloured ſilk: wings, of a Shepſtare's quill feather.

AUGUST.

BUSS BROWN. Dubbing, of the light brown hair of a Cur; the head black: wings, of the feather of a red Hen; warped with orange-coloured ſilk.

HEARTH FLY. Dubbing of the wool of an old black Sheep, with ſome grey hairs in it, for the body and head: wings of a light Shepſtare's quill-feather, warped on with black ſilk.

PISMIRE FLY. Dubbing, of bright brown Bear's hair, warped with red ſilk: wings, of the ſaddeſt coloured Shepſtare's quill feather. *A good Fly.*

SEPTEMBER.

LITTLE BLUE DUN. Dubbing, of the down of a Mouſe for body and head; warped with ſad aſh-coloured ſilk: wings, of a ſad-coloured Shepſtare's quill-feather.

IT *has already been hinted, Page* 262, *that the history of Aquatic Insects is at present but little known: in order, therefore, to assist such as may be disposed to make enquiries into this stupendous branch of Natural Science, besides recommending to the reader's attentive perusal, the life of the* Ephemeron, *an insect very little differing from our* Green *and* Grey *Drake, translated from the Low* Dutch *of Dr.* Swammerdam, *by Dr.* Edw. Tyson, *Lond.* Quarto, 1681, *we have added as the next number of this Appendix, a translation of Mr.* Ray's Methodus Insectorum, *mentioned by Dr.* Derham. Phys. Theol. *p.* 234.

Did this study lead to nothing more than the improvement of Angling, perhaps it had not been insisted on with that degree of earnestness which appears in the foregoing pages: but pursuits of this kind have a natural tendency to open and enlarge the mind, and to excite the

affections

affections of reverence and gratitude, towards that Being whoſe wiſdom and goodneſs are viſible in the ſtructure of the meaneſt reptile.

" The wiſdom of God receives ſmall honour " from thoſe vulgar heads that rudely ſtare " about, and with a groſs ruſticity admire " his works; thoſe highly magnify him, " whoſe judicious inquiry into his acts, and " deliberate reſearch into his creatures, re- " turn the duty of a devout and learned ad- " miration." *Religio Medici*. Sect. 13.

NUMBER

NUMBER IV.

Of Aquatic Insects *covering themselves with cases, from the observation of Mr.* WILLOUGHBY.

INSECTS breeding in the water, covering themselves with cases, are either with a case,

- *Immoveable*, or fastned with stones; or with a body,
  - *Round*, with little threds at the sides,
  - *Flat*, and more compact, without little threds,
- *Moveable*, portable, or migratory, commonly called *Phryganea*; being furnished with little threds, as well in the back as in the sides, by which they stick firmly to their cases, reserving the head and feet, with three little knobs beyond the feet, which they can erect or put forth at will, to hinder lest their cases, hanging over their heads while they are walking, should trouble them.

And they are either, in cases,

- *Strait*, either having
  - *Straws* joined together, and those either
    - *Parallel*, of which there are two sorts; first, the greater, two inches long; second, the lesser, and most common *Straw-worms*.
    - *Transverse*, and shorter, with which, sometimes, are mingled little stones and shells.
  - *No Straws* sticking, but little stones, or small sand; which are either
    - *Round*, with little worms within, called *Cod-baits*; or,
    - *Flat*, or compact.

With

With ſomewhat greater ſtones ſticking to the ſides of the caſe, not in the downward or prone part; from whence they neceſſarily appear flat or compact.

With no ſtones ſticking to the ſides, but with a caſe running into a ſlender margin or border, as ſome wings; with a more plain and compact caſe than the former.

Crooked, or rather horned; for there are crooked caſes of theſe, and one extremity larger, the other leſs. We have known four different ſorts of theſe, *viz.* The greater and leſſer black, the greater and leſſer aſh-colour.

All theſe produce flies with large wings, rivals to the *Papilio's*, and the *Nymphæ* of theſe, which are to ſpring from thoſe little worms, which, like Tortoiſes, carry their houſes along with them; and within which houſes they turn into *Nymphæ*, from which *Nymphæ* afterwards ſpring little flies, are what Dr. *Swammerdam* ſpeaks of in his fourth order of tranſmutations; when, in our opinion, they may belong to the third, becauſe they change their ſkin twice.

NUMBER V.

Containing additional RULES *and* CAUTIONS.

I. WHEN you have hooked a Fiſh, never ſuffer him to run out with the line; but keep your rod bent, and as near perpendicular as you can; by this method the top plies to every pull he makes, and you prevent the ſtraining of your line: for the ſame reaſon,

II. Never raiſe a large fiſh out of the water by taking the hair to which your hook is faſtened, or indeed any part of the line into your hand; but either put a landing net under him, or for want of that, your hat: you may indeed in Fly-fiſhing, lay hold of your line to draw a fiſh to you; but this muſt be done with caution.

III. Your ſilk for whipping hooks and other fine work, muſt be very ſmall; uſe it double and wax it, and indeed any other kind of binding with ſhoemaker's wax, which of all wax, is the tougheſt, and holds beſt: if your wax is too ſtiff, temper it with tallow.

IV. Incloſe the knots and joints of your lines in a ſmall pill of wax, preſſed very cloſe, and the ſuperfluities pinched off: this will ſoon harden and prevent the knots from drawing.

V. If for ſtrong fiſhing, you uſe graſs, which when you can get it fine, is to be preferred to gut, remember always to ſoak it about an hour in water before you uſe it: this will make it tough, and prevent its kinking.

VI. Whenever you begin fiſhing wet the ends of the joints of you rod; which, as it makes them ſwell, will prevent their looſening. And,

VII. If you happen with rain or otherwiſe to wet your rod, ſo that you cannot pull the joints aſunder, turn the

ferrel

ferrel a few times round in the flame of a candle, and they will eaſily ſeparate.

VIII. Before your fix the loop of briſtle to your hook, in order to make a fly; to prevent its drawing, beſure to ſinge the ends of it in the flame of a candle, do the ſame by the hair, to which at any time you whip a hook.

IX. Make flies in warm weather only; for in cold your waxed ſilk will not draw.

X. In rainy weather, or when the ſeaſon for fiſhing is over, repair whatever damage your tackle has ſuſtained.

XI. Never regard what bunglers and ſlovens tell you; but believe that neatneſs in your tackle and a nice and curious hand in all your work, eſpecially in fly-making, are abſolutely neceſſary.

XII. Never fiſh in any water that is not common, without leave of the owner, which is ſeldom denied to any but thoſe who do not deſerve it.

XIII. If at any time you happen to be overheated with walking, or other exerciſe, avoid ſmall liquors eſpecially water, as you would poiſon; and rather take a glaſs of rum or brandy; the inſtantaneous effects whereof, in cooling the body, and quenching drought, are amazing.

XIV. and laſtly, Remember that the wit and invention of mankind were beſtowed for other purpoſes than to deceive ſilly fiſh; and that however delightful Angling may have been made to appear, by the foregoing pages, it ceaſes to be innocent when uſed otherwiſe than as a mere recreation.

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